THE SPORTING MAGAZINE;

OR,

MONTHLY CALENDAR

Of the Transactions of the TURF, the CHASE, and every other Diversion interesting to the Man of Pleasure, Enterprize, and Spirit.

FOR NOVEMBER, 1792.

CONTAINING

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Embellished with Two beautiful Copper-plate Cuts (designed by CORBOULD, and engraved by COOK): 1. Archery at Hatfield, by the Marchioness of SALISBURY, &c. 2. The celebrated Race over the Beacon Course at Newmarket, on the 10th of November, 1792, between the Duke of BEDFORD, on his famous horse Dragon, and Sir JOHN LADE, on his Horse Clifden.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

ANECDOTES of the Swaffham Coursing Society, respecting the Silver Cup, arrived too late for insertion in the present Number, but shall not escape our attention.

Account of the Origin of Wrestling, communicated to us under the signature P. shall accompany the above mentioned Anecdote in our next Publication.

An Article translated from *L'Esprit de Journeaux*, is equally entitled to our notice.

The Miraculous Draught of Fishes, by Marmaduke Marvel, is received, and shall have a place; though it may, perhaps, excite the astonishment of some incredulous readers.

Acastus will recognize his obliging Epistle in this second Number of our Performance. We have given the strongest proof of our opinion of his correspondence, by an immediate insertion of his favour; and hope he will excuse us if we claim the performance of his promise of favouring us with a systematic course of Hunting.

Bibo will perceive, by the introduction of his Letter, that we consider Drinking as a sport, diversion, pastime, or amusement. We drank his health, a few evenings ago, in the genuine juice of Burgundy.

Sporting Anecdotes of the present King of Naples are received.

T. W. wishes we would oblige him, by inserting what he calls an Epigram; but we have taken a more effectual method to oblige him, (though, perhaps, he may think otherwise), by rejecting it.

THE

Sporting Magazine.

For NOVEMBER, 1792.

Origin and Progress of ARCHERY *in this Kingdom.*

IT seems very apparent, from the authority of history, that the Romans introduced the bow into this country; and that they continued to use it till their final departure, about the year 448. In North Britain, the bow appears to have been known at least as early as it was in the south. The works of Boethius, and other historians of that country, seem thus to intimate.

When the Britons found themselves deserted by the Romans, they sought assistance from the Saxons, against their enemies the Scots; who, hastening to their relief, entered this island with an army, about the year 449. These people are said to have used both the long and cross bow; whence we may reasonably conclude that archery was cherished in this country by the new invaders. We find, that during the Saxon Heptarchy, Offrid, the Son of Edwin, king of Northumbria, was killed by an arrow, in a battle between the troops of that king and the united army of Mercians and Welsh, fought about the year 633, near Hatfield, in the West Riding of Yorkshire. But, except this fact, little relating to the bow appears in our annals of the Saxon æra.

The Danes come next under our review. They were accustomed to the use of archery in battles; and we find it often noticed in this period by our early chronicle writers. About the year 870, they became very formidable,

midable, and committed great depredations on the inhabitants of East Anglia. In one of their battles with the East Angles, they were conquerors, and took prisoner Edmund, king of that part of the island; whom they insulted with great indignities, and bound to a stake, for the Danish archers and javelin men to aim at; putting him to death by that ignominious expedient.

During the reign of Alfred, it seems probable that archery was much in use, both in the army of the Danes, and in that of Alfred. This appears from a passage in Asserius, who relates a curious anecdote concerning our good king:—— "Alfred took refuge from the persecution of the Danes, at a poor cottage, where he resided unknown to his benefactors, who little imagined their roof protected a royal guest. It happened one day, as the king sat by the fire, preparing his *bow, arrows, and his other warlike instruments*, that the farmer's wife had placed some bread cakes upon the hearth to bake, &c." Bows and arrows are here called warlike instruments; and Polydore Virgil, speaking of the troops of Ethelred, of which part were commanded by his brother Alfred, says, that "a great number of *archers* were placed in the right wing of the army."

From this time till the Norman invasion, little occurs respecting archery; but it is well known how successfully it was introduced by William, at the battle of Hastings. Bows and arrows are mentioned on this occasion by all our historians; and the catastrophe of the battle proves the advantage which the invaders derived from these weapons.

In the reign of Henry the Second, archery seems to have been first carried into Ireland. Lord Lyttleton, in his History of the Life of Henry, observes, that "from many instances (in the course of the wars of that prince with the Irish), it appears that the English conquests in Ireland were principally owing to the use of the long bow in battle, which the Irish infantry wanted." The Welch at this time were astonishingly expert in the use of the bow, of which Giraldus Cambrensis mentions many instances.

Nothing particularly applicable to the long bow is to be found in our early historians, during the reigns immediately following it, till that of Edward III. in whose time this weapon is said to have been much in use.

The battle of Cressey, as well as that of Poictiers (where the archers poured forth their quivers in such bloody victories), intimates the bow to have been highly cultivated by the English at those times. Edward, however, found it necessary, during the peace which followed, to enforce the practice of archery, as the soldiers rather neglected that art to attend to other amusements.

We are informed from Hollingshead *, that, during the reign of Richard II. a number of archers were sent, at the request of the Genoese, to assist them against the Saracens, on the coast of Barbary; and that they performed some meritorious exploits with their long bow. Richard the Second had a very numerous guard of archers; for, in 1397, as the members were one day leaving the parliament-house,

* Hollingshead, Cron. III. 473.

"a great

" a great stir was made, as was usual; whereupon the king's archers, in number four thousand, compassed the parliament-house, thinking there had been some broil, or fighting, with their bows bent, their arrows notched, and drawing, ready to shoot, to the terror of all that were there: but the King coming, pacified them*."

A memorable circumstance respecting the bow, occurred in the reign of Henry IV. which was the victory gained over the Scots near Halidowne-hill, in 1402; where, in the words of an old historian, " the Lord Percy's archers did withal deliver their deadly arrows so lively, so courageously, so greviously, that they ranne through the men of armes, bored the helmets, pierced their very swords, beat their lances to the earth, and easily shot those who were more slightly armed, through and through.

The next signal victory ascribed to the English archers is, the battle of Agincourt, which happened in 1415, under Henry the Fifth, in which our countrymen destroyed a great number of the French cavalry, by their yard-long arrows. This, indeed, seems to be the last important action in which archery is much spoken of; and though the use of it was continued through several succeeding reigns, it at length seems to have been calculated principally as an amusement.

This amusement was very fashionable in the time of the Eighth Henry; of which we have given a singular instance in the first Number of our Magazine, page 37. Hollingshead informs us, that that prince shot as well as any of his guard. We are told by Mr. Barrington, that Edward the Sixth was fond of the exercise of archery; and refers to that prince's manuscript journal, in the British Museum.

The First Charles seems also to have amused himself in this way: he is represented, in the frontispiece of Markham's Art of Archery (1634), in the attitude and dress of a bowman. The amusement was continued during the reigns of the Second Charles and the Second James; and the former sometimes attended at exhibitions of shooting. The Artillery Company, or Finsbury Archers, have survived even to the present time: but, except in that society, the bow, till within these ten years, was very little known in the kingdom. At present, however, archery gains favour, and many companies are formed for the practice of that amusement.

The time in which the bow became disused in war by the English army, cannot, perhaps, be exactly fixed. Father Daniel† acquaints us, that arrows were shot by the English at the Isle of Rhe, in 1627. Mr. Groce says, that in 1643, the Earl of Essex issued a precept for " stirring up all well-affected people by benevolence, towards the raising of a company of archers for the service of the king (Charles the First), and the parliament."—The same author informs us that, in a pamphlet, printed in 1664, giving an account of the success of the Marquis of Montrose against the Scots, bowmen are repeatedly mentioned. In the reign of Charles the First, a person of the name of Neade, obtained a commission under the great seal, wherein he and his son were im-

* Stow, 316.

† P. Daniel II. 427.

powered

powered to teach the combined management of the pike and bow. A book, entitled "The double armed Man," was published by William Neade, about the year 1625, pointing out the proper exercise and attitudes. It contains nothing of consequence concerning archery, but it serves to convince us that it was not laid aside at this period.

Observations on MODERN ARCHERY, *considered as an amusement. Extracted from* MOSELEY's Essay on Archery. [*Embellished with a beautiful descriptive View of* ARCHERY *at* HATFIELD, *by the Marchioness of* SALISBURY, *&c.*]

THE value of agreeable amusements must be felt by all people, as the most important advantages in society are in some degree subject to their influence. If we say health is interested and improved by archery, it will seem a sufficient reason for its being esteemed an eligible and useful amusement; and if it can be shewn to possess some valuable qualifications which do not accompany other diversions, the propriety of it will be more conspicuous.

That archery possesses many excellencies as an amusement, will require little trouble to prove. It is an exercise adapted to every age, and every degree of strength; and the blood may be driven with any required velocity, by encreasing or diminishing the power of the bow made use of. It is not necessarily laborious, as it may be discontinued at the moment it becomes fatiguing; a pleasure not to be enjoyed by the hunter, who, having finished his chase, perceives that he must crown his toils with an inanimate ride of forty miles to his bed. Archery is attended with no cruelty; it sheds no innocent blood, nor does it torture a harmless animal; charges which lie heavy against some other amusements.

It has been said, that a reward was formerly offered to him who could invent a new pleasure. Had such a reward been held forth by the ladies of the present day, he who introduced archery as a female exercise, would have deservedly gained the prize. It is unfortunate that there are few diversions in the open air, in which woman can join with satisfaction; and as their sedentary life renders motion necessary to health, it is to be lamented that such suitable amusements have been wanting to invite them. Archery has, however, contributed admirably to supply this defect, and in a manner the most desirable that could be wished.

But I do not intend to sing the praises of this elegant art in their full extent. Fashion now introduces it into the world, and with far greater success than that which may probably attend my reasoning and feeble panegyrics.

I subjoin a wish, however, that this fashion may be universally cultivated and approved; and may we see the time when (with Starius) it can be said,

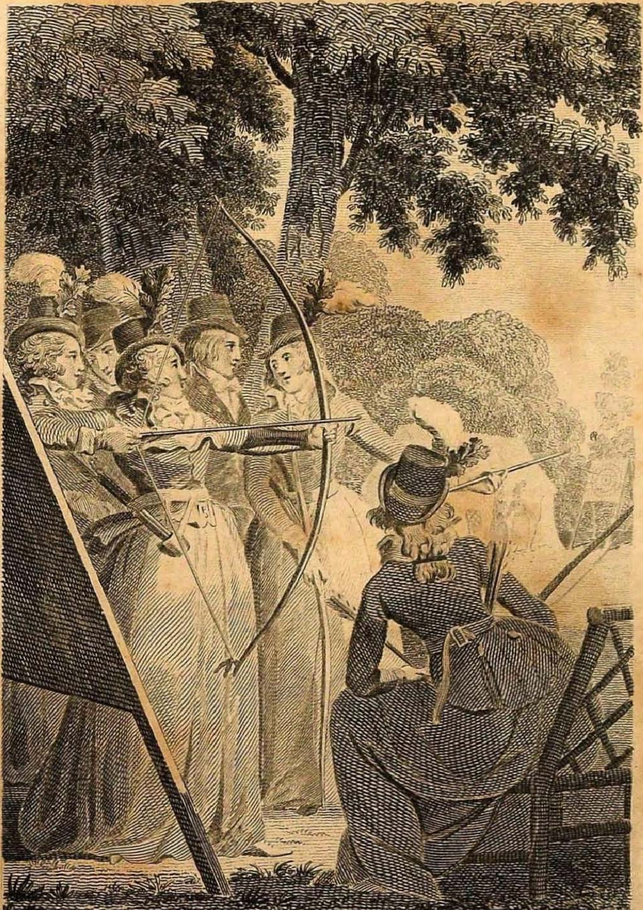
Pudor est nescire sagittas.

It is a reproach to be unskilful with the bow.

The following is a list of the principal societies or companies of archers, viz.

THE Honorable Artillery Company.
Royal Edinburgh.
Toxopholite.
Woodmen of Arden.
Royal Kentish Bowmen.
Royal British Bowmen.
Robin Hood Bowmen.
Loyal Archers.

York-



Corbold del. Cook sculp

ARCHERY at HATFIELD

by the Marchioness of Salisbury &c. &c.

Published Decr. 1. 1792. by J. Wheble Warwick Lane.

Yorkshire Archers.
Hainault Foresters.
Southampton Archers.
Bowmen of Chiviot Chase.
Kentish Rangers.
Bowmen of Hornsey.
Surry Bowmen.
Bowmen of the Border.
Mercian Bowmen.
Broughton Archers.
Staffordshire Bowmen.
Trent Archers.

Extraordinary EQUESTRIAN PERFORMANCES.

(A Succession of them to be given occasionally.)

ONE of the earliest in the order of time, in this country, occurred in the year 1604, in the reign of James I. when John Lepton, Esq. of Kenwick, in Yorkshire, who was one of his Majesty's grooms, undertook to ride five times between London and York, from Monday morning till Saturday night. He accordingly set out from St. Martins-le-grand, between two and three in the morning of the twenty-sixth of May, and arrived at York on the same day, between five and six in the afternoon; rested there that night, and the next day returned to St. Martins-le-grand, about seven in the evening, where he staid till about three o'clock the next morning. He reached York, a second time, about seven at night, from whence he set off again for London about three in the morning, and reached London between seven and eight. He set off again for York between two and three in the morning following, and getting there between seven and eight at night, completed his undertaking in five days. On the Monday following he left York, and came to his majesty's court at Greenwich, as fresh and as cheerful as when he first set out.

In the year 1619, on the seventeenth of July, one Bernard Calvert, of Andover, rode from St. George's Church, Southwark, to Dover, from thence passed by barge to Calais, in France, and from thence returned back to St. George's Church, the same day, setting out about three o'clock in the morning, and returning about eight in the evening, fresh and hearty.

Baker's Chronicle, page 605.

In 1701, Mr. Sinclair, a gentleman, of Kirby Lonsdale, in Cumberland, for a wager of five hundred guineas, rode a galloway of his, on the Swift, at Carlisle, a thousand miles in a thousand successive hours.

In 1745, Mr. Cooper Thornhill, master of the Bell Inn, at Stilton, in Huntingdonshire, made a match, for a considerable sum, to ride three times between Stilton and London. He was to be allowed as many horses as he pleased, and to perform it in fifteen hours. He accordingly started on Monday, April 29, 1745, and rode

	h.	m.	sec.
From Stilton to Shoreditch Church, London (71 miles) in	3	52	59
From London to Stilton in	3	50	57
From Stilton to London in	3	49	56

Which was two hundred and thirteen miles in eleven hours, thirty-three minutes, and fifty-two seconds; and three hours, twenty-six minutes, and eight seconds, within the time allowed him.

On Wednesday, June 27, 1759, Jennison Shafto, Esq. performed a match against time, on Newmarket Heath; the conditions of which

which were, he was to ride fifty miles (having as many horses as he pleased) in two successive hours, which he accomplished with ten horses, in one hour, forty-nine minutes, and seventeen seconds.

In 1761, a match was made between Jennison Shafto, and Hugo Meynel, Esquires, for two thousand guineas; Mr. Shafto to get a person to ride one hundred miles a day (on any one horse each day) for twenty nine days together: to have any number of horses, not exceeding twenty-nine. The person chose by Mr. Shafto was Mr. John Woodcock, who started on Newmarket-heath, the fourth of May, 1761, at one o'clock in the morning, and finished (having used only fourteen horses) on the first of June, about six in the evening.

On Tuesday, August the 24th, 1773, at thirty-five minutes past ten in the evening, was determined a match between Thomas Walker's, Esquire, hackney gelding, and Captain Adam Hay's road mare, to go from London to York. Mr. Walker rode his horse, and Captain Mulcaster rode for Mr. Hay. They set out from Portland-street, London, and Captain Mulcaster, with the winning mare, arrived at Ouse-bridge, York, in forty hours, and thirty-five minutes. Mr. Walker's horse tired within six miles of Tadcaster, and died the next day. The mare drank twelve bottles of wine during her journey, and on the following Thursday, was so well as to take her exercise on Knavesmire.

The last week in September, 1781, a great match of four hundred and twenty miles in one whole week, was rode over Lincoln two-mile course, and won by Richard Hanstead, of Lincoln, and his famous grey horse, with great ease, having three hours and a half to spare.

October 15th, 1783, Samuel Halliday, a butcher of Leeds, undertook, for a bet of ten pounds, to ride from Leeds to Rochdale, from thence to York, and back again to Leeds (one hundred and ten miles), in twenty hours. He started at ten o'clock at night, upon a slender mare, not fourteen hands high, and though he rode above fourteen stone, he finished his journey with ease, in less than eighteen hours.

December 29th, 1786, Mr. Hull's horse Quibler, run a match for a thousand guineas, twenty-three miles in one hour, round the Flat, at Newmarket, which he performed in fifty-seven minutes and ten seconds.

Aug. 15th, 1792. To decide a wager of fifty pounds, between Mr. Cooper, and Mr. Brewer, of Stamford, the latter gentleman's horse Labourer, ran twenty times round the race-ground (exactly a mile) at Preston, in fifty-four minutes.

THE SPORTSMAN'S

GENERAL CALENDAR.

Feb. 28, Hare hunting ends
Mar. 25, Fox-hunting ends
June 30, Buck-hunting begins
Aug. 14, Grouse-shooting begins
20, Black game-shooting begins
Sept. 1, Partridge-shooting begins
14, Buck-hunting ends
30, Hare-hunting begins
Oct. 1, Pheasant-shooting begins
Dec. 10, Black and red game shooting ends
25, Fox-hunting-begins.

LET-

LETTER I.

General Observations on Hare-Hunting.

To the Editors *of the* Sporting Magazine.

Gentlemen,

IF you will accept of me as a correspondent, I shall be happy to furnish you, from time to time, with practical observations on hare-hunting. I prefer the epistolary mode of transmitting to you the information I have acquired on this subject, because a series of letters will answer the purpose of a succession of chapters; and, though equally systematical, be less formal and pedantic. In the course of this correspondence, (if I should be fortunate enough to merit your approbation) I propose to treat of hunting, in all its branches; and first, of the chase of the hare.

Of all the animals hunted by hounds, the hare best defends herself by the exercise of cunning. Without making mention of her ordinary shifts, such as getting up into the hollow of a tree, or upon the walls of an old ruin, I shall just observe, that she has been known, after having made several doubles, to squat down till the dogs and horsemen have passed by, then to take the back scent, and return upon that track which the hounds have pursued.

Another has been known, after doubling many times in a marsh near the edge of a river, to throw herself into the water, float down with the stream the length of five hundred paces, and afterwards to get upon a little island. A third has been seen to swim into the middle of a piece of standing water, keeping only her nose above the surface, to enable her to draw breath. These are matchless efforts of cunning, or something greater.

I cannot avoid observing, gentlemen, that the doubling of the hare before she goes to her form, in order to dodge and deceive the dogs, is a remarkable instance of the natural sagacity of this animal for the purposes of her security.

The hare attains its full growth in one year, and lives six or seven. From the first year it engenders at all seasons, and has no particular time for coupling with the female. It is observable, however, that from the month of December to the month of March, the buck seeks the doe more frequently, and leverets are more plentiful about that time. The doe goes with young about thirty or thirty-one days, and brings forth one, two, three, and sometimes four young ones: which she kindles in a tuft of grass, or heath, or in a little bush, without any kind of preparation.

Nature has been wonderfully kind in the formation of the hare, and it seems extremely proper that she should have been so beneficent; there being hardly a creature breathing, wild or domestic, that is not an enemy to this poor, defenceless creature. Birds of the air, as well as beasts of the field, seem in perpetual war with her. Even the adder will kill the old hare, passive and defenceless in the combat: nor is the leveret secure and unmolested by the despicable bat and owl. But as the most proper means for preservation amidst such a numerous tribe of enemies, nature has kindly endowed her with a temper extremely timid, continually watchful and listening, and ever eager, even to rashness, to turn from the most

trifling approach of danger; all her dependence being in that talent alone, and which the wise contriver of all things has ordained every part to assist and aid.

Suppose, gentlemen, we take a short survey of this little quadruped, this wonder of animals! —Not more the delight of the sportsman than his beagles! No creature in the universe leaves a more grateful and enchanting scent: the smell of the martin is not more ravishing to the hounds. View his short round head, how excellently fashioned it is for flight: how long the ears, how large and open, how fixed on the head, and when pricked, how close together they point, finely calculated to hear the enemy at a distance, and receive timely warning of the least approach of danger.

The eyes, ingeniously placed on each side, divided by the whole breadth of the forehead, so situated as to observe almost a whole circle: being formed so as to turn any way, to spy impending danger from all quarters, and secure himself in time. It is worthy of remark, that the eyes of the hare are perpetually open, whether waking or sleeping; and they are so protuberant, round, and large, that the lids are too short to cover them when asleep.

Such are the prominent features of the animal I am treating of. The modes of taking him are as follow:—

Every sportsman should possess a barometer or weather-glass; for hunting is a trade that is not to be forced, nor can the best cry that ever was coupled make any thing of it, unless the air be in tune. It is, indeed, no uncommon thing among sportsmen to fix the time two or three days before hand to meet a friend, or to hunt in some particular quarter, but appointed matches of this kind are my aversion; he who will enjoy the pleasures of the chase, must ask permission of the heavens.

It is certain also, that the earth has no small influence on this delicious pastime; for though it sometimes happens that the scent is floating, so that you may run down a hare through water and mire, especially if you keep pretty close after her, without the trouble of stooping; yet, at such a season, the first fault is the loss of your game; the perspirations of her body being washed over head by the gravity of the air, and those of her feet being left on elements which absorb or confound them. This last case very often happens at the going off of a frost; the mercury is then usually falling; and consequently the scent is sinking to the ground.

A thaw tends to corrupt the particles of scent: the frost fixes, covers, and preserves them. — Whether this is done by intercepting their ascent, and precipitating them to the ground by the gross particles of frozen dew, or whether by sheathing them from the penetrating air, I leave to the learned; but the facts are certain, and confirmed by experience. The hoar frost, however, is generally of short continuance, changeable, and uncertain, both as to its time and place of falling; and hence all those difficulties are easily resolved. As soon as the huntsman gets out of his bed, let him but examine the glass windows, which generally discover whether any hoar frost has fallen, what time it came, and in what condition of continuance, or going off, it is for the present. If it appears to

to have fallen at two, three, or four o'clock in the morning, suppose in October, and other times of the year in proportion, and to be going off about break of day, it may then be expected that there will be a great difficulty or impossibility of trailing to her seat; because her morning retreat being on the top of the frozen dew, the scent is either dissolved, corrupted, or dissipated and exhaled. After such a night, indeed, the dogs will find work in every field, and often hunt in full cry, but it will be generally backward, and always in vain; her midnight ramblings, which were covered by the frost, being now open, fresh, and fragrant.

It should also be remembered, that there is no small accidental difference in the very particles of scent: I mean that they are stronger, sweeter, or more distinguishable, at one time than another, according to the changes of the air, or the soil, as well as of her own motions or conditions.

Motion is, perhaps, the chief cause of her shedding or discharging these scenting particles, because she is very seldom perceived whilst she is quiet in her form, though the dogs are ever so near, though they leap over her; and, as I have often seen, even tread upon her. But it is remarkable, that these odorous particles gradually decay, and end with her life, because it requires the most curious noses to lead the cry when she is near her last, because she is often entirely lost at her last squat, and because if you knock her on the head before them, there is hardly one in the pack that will stop to take any notice of her.

Hunting the soil is extremely curious, especially if she immediately steals back behind the dogs the same path she came; for it must require the utmost skill to distinguish well the new scent from the old, when both are mixed, obscured, and confounded, with the strong perspirations of so many dogs and horses; yet this I have often seen performed by ready and expert hunters. However, if the dogs are not masters of their business, or if the air should not be in due balance, the difficulty will be the greater.

Having thus expatiated on the properties of the hare, and particularly on the particles of scent by which she is more particularly distinguished, I shall close this epistle by assuring, that I am,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ACASTUS.

PARTRIDGE SHOOTING.

THIS subject was little more than mentioned in our last; in the present article we will endeavour to be full and satisfactory.

Partridges are naturally timid, cowardly, and simple; they are consequently easily deceived. — They pair in the spring, but at an earlier or later period, in proportion to the severity or mildness of the season. In open weather, in January, they are found in pairs; but if the cold weather returns, they again form in coveys. The hen lays her eggs during the month of May, and the beginning of June. Her nest is made upon the ground, artlessly constructed with blades of grass, at the edge of a corn-field, in a meadow, heath, &c. and she lays from fifteen to twenty eggs.

The earliest birds fly towards the latter end of June. Afterwards, their plumage undergoes a variety of changes, till at length the red and blackish feathers begin to form a *horse-shoe* upon the breast, which is not so conspicuous on the female as on the male: this mark takes place early in October, and till that is perfect, they are not properly entitled to the name of *partridges*. At this time, when the plumage is complete, the young birds cannot be distinguished from the old ones, but by the first feather of the wing, which terminates in a point like a lancet; in all but the last brood, this feather is round at the extremity. This distinction remains till the first moulting, which usually takes place in the July following. A young partridge is always known by his yellow legs; those of the old are grey. The male is known by an obtuse spur on the hinder part of the leg; the female has not this protuberance. The male is also a little larger than the female.

Partridges are not equally abundant every year, from various causes; much depends upon the mildness of the weather at the time of laying the eggs, and the season of incubation; and even when the birds are hatched.—This period is usually from the end of April to the middle of June. A wet season destroys the ants, which are the principal food of partridges and pheasants. Drought, in a certain degree, is unfavourable to them; for when the ground cracks, and forms crevices, they fall into them and perish. The old partridge has also many perils to encounter, from weazels and other vermin, crows, magpies, shepherds' dogs, and farmers.

When the eggs of a partridge are destroyed, it sometimes happens that she lays again. Birds not properly feathered in the tail at the end of September, or later, are of this second hatching, frequently termed *clacking*.

Whilst the birds are young, that is, till the middle of October, it is easy to shoot them in a country tolerably well stocked; but after that period, and especially when they have tasted the green wheat, they fly far, and are very wild; they are not to be separated but by dint of following them down, particularly in a flat country, where there are neither roughs nor thickets; and it is only by breaking the covey that we can indulge a reasonable hope of success; for while they remain in the covey we can hardly get within gun-shot of them. In this sport, more than in any other, it is essential that the shooter should have good legs and eyes; the legs to tire the birds, and break the covey by an incessant pursuit, and the eyes to mark them down with certainty.

In a country where there is a scarcity of birds, and the sportsman no longer chooses to range the fields for the chance of meeting with them, a method of finding them another way is pointed out in our former Number, page 34. And in the same page, instructions are given for killing them in the snow.

By the 2d and 3d G. 3. c. 19. No person shall, upon any pretence whatsoever, take, kill, carry, sell, buy, or have in his possession, or use, any partridge, between February 12 and September 1, or any pheasant between February 1 and October 1, yearly, on pain of forfeiting 5l. for every such fowl, with full costs. But this is not to extend

to

to any pheasant taken in the season allowed by this act, and kept in any mew or breeding place.

N. B. Whether partridges or other winged game are the objects of pursuit, attention should be paid to the colour of the shooting dress; green is allowed to be the best in the early part of the season, whilst the leaves continue on the trees. Should the sportsman be clad in a glaring colour, when the face of the country retains its verdure, the game would perceive his approach more easily, and from a greater distance. A dark grey would, for the same reason, be proper for the winter; or some other colour approaching that of the dead or expiring leaf.

Loading a Fowling-Piece.

THE powder should be but slightly rammed down: it is sufficient to press the ramrod two or three times on the wadding, and not (according to the usual practice) to ram down the wadding by main force, by drawing the ramrod, and then returning it into the barrel with a jerk of the arm many successive times. By compressing the powder with such violence, some of the grains will be bruised, the explosion will not be so quick, and the shot will be spread wider.

In pouring the charge of powder into the barrel, the measure should be held as much as possible in a perpendicular line, that the powder may the more readily fall to the bottom. It is not amiss to strike the butt end of the gun on the ground, to detach those grains of powder, which, in falling, adhere to the sides of the barrel.

The shot should not be rammed down tight: having given a stroke on the ground with the butt end of the gun, in order to settle it, the same as for the powder, the wadding should then be gently put down, and not so close as that over the powder. When the shot is wadded too tight, it spreads wide, and the piece will recoil. In this and every other mode of loading, the sportsman should never carry his gun under his arm with the muzzle inclined to the ground. That practice loosens the wadding and charge too much, and sometimes occasions the loss of the shot.

As soon as the piece is fired, it should be instantly reloaded, while the barrel is warm: a delay might occasion a moisture to form in the barrel, which would retain a part of the powder when pouring in the charge, and hinder it from falling to the bottom. The sportsman should fire off a little powder before he loads the piece the first time; experience having shewn that, even in the driest seasons, the coldness of the barrel, and perhaps some little moisture condensed in its cavity, have sensibly diminished the force of the powder in the first discharge.

It is the practice of some sportsmen to prime before they load; this may be proper when the touch-hole is enlarged, and the barrel is very thin at that place, because if such piece is not first primed, it will prime itself in loading, and diminish the charge; but when the touch-hole is of its proper size, the piece should not be primed till after it is loaded; for then it will be known, from the few grains of powder which usually make their way into the pan, that the touch-hole is clear and unobstructed. On the contrary,

trary, should no grains come through, the sportsman should strike the butt end of the gun smartly with the hand, and prick the touch-hole till they appear.

But, whether the piece be primed before or after the loading, it is extremely necessary to prick the touch-hole after every discharge, and to guard against all remains of fuze, or squib, by inserting into the touch-hole the feather of a partridge's wing, which will clear it of these dangerous remains; and, if the piece is delayed to be re-charged, take away all humidity that may be contracted there.

A DIGEST *of the* LAWS *concerning* GAME.

(Continued from page 7.)

THE fourth qualification, by the 7 Jac. c. 11, relates to pheasants and partridges only. This statute enacts, that every free warrener, lord of a manor, or freeholder, seized in his own or his wife's right, of 40l. a year of inheritance, or lives estate of 80l. or worth in goods 400l. may take pheasants and partridges (in the day time only) in his own free warren, manor, or freehold, between Michaelmas and Christmas yearly.

The fifth, which is the last general qualification by estate or decree to kill game, and is now most to be regarded, is set forth in the 22 and 23 C. 2, c. 25, by which it is enacted, That every person, not having lands and tenements, or some other estate of inheritance, in his own, or in his wife's right, of the *clear yearly value of* 100l. *per annum, or for term of life,* or not having lease or leases of ninety-nine years, or for any longer term, of the clear yearly value of 150l. *(other than the son and heir apparent of an esquire,* or other persons of higher degree, and the owners and keepers of forests, parks, chases, or warrens, being stocked with deer or conies, for their necessary use, in respect of the said forests, parks, chases, or warrens) is hereby declared to be a person, by the laws of this realm, not allowed to have or keep for himself, or any other person, any guns, bows, greyhounds, setting-dogs, ferret, nets, gins, snares, or other engines, for the taking and killing of game, s. 3.

On the words, *clear yearly value of* 100l. *per annum,* it has been decided that the estate must produce 100l. per annum, over and above all outgoings, &c. Consequently, if such estate is mortgaged, and will not produce 100l. per annum, after deducting the interest on the sum borrowed, such an estate is not a qualification under the statute. This point was determined in the case of Wetherell *v.* Hall, M. 23. G. 3. Caldecott's Rep. 230.

On the words, *or for term of life,* in the said statute of 22 and 23 C. 2, it has been doubted upon what order of qualification an ecclesiastical living shall be ranked, which is not held by a man in his own, or his wife's right, but in the right of his church. It is allowed to be a life's estate, though it may happen to determine sooner, by resignation, deprivation, or accepting another living incompatible. The question is, whether these words shall belong to the former or latter part of the sentence. Abstracted from the punctuation, which is no part of the statute (for the statutes are without points), it seems that the former part of the sentence, respecting a qualification,

tion of 100l. a year by an estate of inheritance, ought to terminate with the words, *per annum*; and it appears reasonable, that a life estate, being of inferior value, was meant by the legislature to be rated with the leasehold, whereof 150l. a year is required to constitute a qualification.

A modern adjudication has, indeed, established this doctrine, that a life estate of less than 150l. *per annum*, is not a qualification to kill game. The case was as follows: E. 22. G. 3, Lowndes, esquire, *v.* Lewis, clerk. This was an action of debt on the stat. 5 Ann. c. 14, for the better preservation of the game, and the defendant pleaded the general issue. At the assizes for the county of Oxford, the cause was tried before Heath J. and the plaintiff obtained a verdict for two penalties upon two counts; one for keeping, and the other for using a greyhound, upon the ground that the defendant, who had a living of 100l. *per annum*, had not shewn an exemption, under the 22 and 23 C. 2; but with leave for the defendant to move to set aside the verdict, and enter it for the defendant. And now, upon such motion, it appeared from the judge's report, that the point of law which arose out of the facts in proof at the trial, and which were meant to be submitted to the judgment of the court, were, 1. Whether a person having an estate for life of 100l. *per annum*, is qualified to kill game? 2. Whether a vicar, in respect of his church, has an estate of inheritance in him, or an estate for life only?

The first and most general question depended upon the words of the act, which were, "that every person not having lands and tenements, or some other estate of inheritance, in *his own or his wife's right*, of the clear yearly value of one hundred pounds *per annum*, or for term of life, or having lease or leases of ninety-nine years, or for any longer term, of the clear yearly value of one hundred and fifty pounds, is hereby declared to be a person by the laws of this realm, not allowed to have or keep for himself, or any other person, any greyhounds, &c." And the principal difficulty upon the argument seemed to be, whether the words "or for term of life," were properly referable to the first or last branches of the sentence, which created the exemption? Howorth, Bower, and Clerk, shewed cause against the rule to enter the verdict for the defendant; and Howorth insisted, that the interest of a parson, *jure ecclesiæ*, being no more than an estate for life, such property could not exempt him from the penalties of the statute of 2 Ann; that it was necessary that such an ecclesiastical estate should amount to 150l. *per annum*; that it was the obvious intention of the legislature, when they passed the statute 22 and 23 C. 2; to make a distinction between estates of inheritance, and estates for lives and years. But, supposing there were any doubt upon the words of the stat. of C. 2, the statutes of 1 Jac. and 7 Jac. being in *pari materia*, must be taken as explanation, and would remove the difficulty; that those statutes must have been consulted at the time, and that they make an express difference between the qualifications necessary to an owner of the inheritance, and a mere tenant for life; and that the words of the two acts were so clear and marked, that they could not be further elucidated by argument.

Bower,

Bower, on the same side, insisted, that a due consideration of the several statutes, and the general law upon this subject, would not only fortify the construction above contended for, but would go a great way to shew, that no spiritual person, unless of such dignity, as to have an estate of fee-simple in his church, could have any qualification to kill game. As to the words of the statute of C. 2, " or for term of life," and that they relate to leasehold terms for years, of 150l. *per annum*, and not to inheritances of 100l. he urged that the abstract of Lord Chief Baron Comyns, who, when he speaks from himself, is a very high authority, confirmed the construction insisted upon by the plaintiff. In his Digest, he explains it thus: " By the stat. 22 and 23 C. 2, c. 25. persons not having an inheritance of their own, or their wife's, of 100l. *per annum*, or 150l. *per annum*, in an estate for lives or years above ninety-nine, &c. shall not keep or use, &c." And that the act is also stated in the same way, in the case of Bennet *v.* Talbot. Adair, serjeant, argued in support of the rule. Lord Mansfield: A tenant for life must have an estate to the amount of 150l. *per annum*, to qualify him to kill game. The clause, as it stands in the act, is not grammar: it is by some slip, made nonsensical. The word " having" must be rejected, or the consequence is, that the having of a term must, as the act is worded, operate as a disqualification: an impossible sense in any way of considering this statute. But, leave out this word (and for the above reason it cannot be retained) and all is clear. Willes, J. contended, that persons who had life estate of 100l. *per annum*, had constantly exercised this privilege; and that construction of the act, in his opinion, ought to prevail. Ashurst. J. The act, as it stands, is nonsense: this subjects us to the necessity of adding or rejecting something. " Having," therefore, must, in the last member of the clause, be rejected, or " not," must be added to it, to make the whole intelligible either way. Buller J. This case seems to me to admit of no doubt, when the question is considered with reference to former acts in *pari materia*; and if we must either reject, or add, or transpose words in this act, to obtain a clear and consistent meaning, under such circumstances, we can do no other than resort to former statutes; and each of those cited in the reign of King James, not only requires, in the case of estates for life, a higher qualification than in the case of inheritance, but even to a double and treble amount. But upon the act itself the constructions must be, that estates for life are not equivalent to estates of inheritance, or the whole of the first clause is nugatory, and altogether rejected in effect; as the second, which is having an estate of freehold, would have included it. The passage in Comyns, the case in 5 Mod. and the printed form of convictions, all strongly shew the general understanding upon the subject; and added to the sense of the legislature of the acts *pari materia*, afford to my mind an unanswerable argument. Lord Mansfield: We will think of it; and, should we change our opinions, we will let you know. In the mean time, let the rule be discharged. It was never mentioned again. Caldecott's Rep. 188.

One of the persons exempted in the said act of 22 and 23 C. 2, is

is *the son and heir apparent of an esquire.* In the time of the Saxons, he was an esquire who attended a knight, and carried a shield: whence he was called *esquier* in French, *scrutiser* or *armiger* in Latin. But this addition has not, for a long time, had any respect to the person or employment of the person to whom it has been attributed, but has been merely a name of dignity, next above the common title of gentleman, and below a knight. And this title is of that nature with us at present, that to whomsoever, either by blood or situation in the state, or other eminency, we conceive some higher attribute should be given than the title of gentleman, knowing at the same time that he has no other honourable title legally fixed on him, we usually style him an esquire, in such passages as require legally that his degree or state be mentioned.—Seld. Tit. of Hon. 374, 462, 687.

Sir William Blackstone informs us, that those to whom the title of esquire is of right due, are the eldest sons of peers, though frequently titular lords; the youngest sons of peers, and their eldest sons in perpetual succession, are also esquires; so are the eldest sons of knights, and their eldest sons. Many are esquires by virtue of their office; as justices of the peace, and others who bear any office of trust under the crown.—1 Blackst. 405.

Also the four esquires of the king's body; those who serve the king in any worshipful calling, (to use in Camden's words), as the serjeant chirurgeon, serjeant of the livery, master cook, &c. All such as are created esquires by the king, with a collar of S. S. of silver, as the heralds and serjeants at arms. The chief of some ancient families are also esquires by prescription. Barristers at law, in the acts of parliament for poll-money, were ranked among esquires. Those who bear any superior office in the commonwealth, as high sheriff of any county, who holds the title of esquire during his life; but a justice of the peace has it only during the time he is in commission, if not otherwise qualified to bear it.—Camb. Brit. s. 3. 2 Ins. 595.

In the case of Mary Graham, who was convicted of a grand larceny, before Mr. Justice Buller, at the Old Bailey, in July session, 1791, for stealing plate from the Earl of Clanbrassil, it was determined, on a reference to the twelve judges, that the Irish title of earl, cannot give a higher title here than that of *esquire.*—Leach's Cas. in Cr. Law, 446.

(To be continued.)

A singular Case *respecting the* maiming *of a* Horse.

K. v. John Shepherd.

AT the Old Bailey, in October sessions, 1790, John Shepherd was indicted before Mr. Baron Hotham, present Mr. Justice Heath, on the statute 9 G. 1, c. 22. for that he, on the 18th of September, a bay gelding, the property of Richard Bond, feloniously, unlawfully, wilfully, and maliciously, did maim, by cutting the tongue of the aforesaid gelding, three inches in length, against the form of the statute. The prosecutor, Richard Bond, a farmer at South Minms, in the county of Middlesex, was possessed of the bay gelding mentioned in the indictment, which was kept at grass in a meadow adjoining to the farm-yard. On

the 19th of September, the animal was found lying in the meadow, with its tongue hanging quite out of its mouth, and one part of it, which was quite dead, very nearly severed from the other. The prisoner was servant to the prosecutor, and had solicited him very earnestly to let him have another of the horses, called *Boxer*, to drive in the team, instead of this gelding, which, at the time the mischief was done, was employed under the direction of the prisoner, in carrying dung. The prisoner was seen holding the gelding by the tongue with one hand, while he beat him violently over the head with the butt end of a whip, which he held in the other; but there was no other evidence whatever, that the prisoner had any malice against his master, except only, that upon being remonstrated with on the barbarity of his conduct, he had declared, in the heat of his passion, that he would do the other horse an injury, if his master did not let him have *Boxer* to go in the team; neither did the immediate cause of his resentment against the gelding appear. The court left it with the jury to consider whether, under the circumstances of this case, the prisoner's conduct had been actuated by any motives of personal revenge against his master? or, whether the brutality of his conduct had not proceeded from some sudden passion against the gelding itself, excited, perhaps, by some act of viciousness, or by its untractable disposition? for that, unless they were of opinion that it was done from a malicious motive against the owner of the gelding, however savage and cruel his conduct might appear, he could not legally be found guilty under this statute. Leach's Cas. in Cr. Law, 436.

A modern DECISION *in the* COURT *of* KING'S BENCH, *relative to an* UNSOUND HORSE.

M. 30, G. 3, Lord Grantley v. General Ainslie.

THIS action was brought to recover of the defendant twenty pounds, as the price of a gelding. The counsel owned the defendant was a gentleman of the strictest honour. The plaintiff, Lord Grantley, had a hunter that was unsound, and therefore he wished to sell him. For this purpose, his Lordship sent him to Tattersall's. He was, at first, entered, by mistake, as a sound horse; but the moment this mistake was perceived, it was corrected: therefore, when General Ainslie purchased him, he took him at risk, as the warrant was then expunged from the book. The Reverend Mr. Fielding fully confirmed these observations by his evidence.

He also said, that his Lordship knew that the horse's eyes were weak; that he was worth 25l. or 30l. and that, if he had been sound, he would have been worth 50l. that Lord Grantley did not warrant the horse sound; that his lordship said he never would.

Another witness said, that Lord Grantley himself was at the stables, the day the horse was intended to be taken away. General Ainslie was then present, speaking to two gentlemen, and must have heard Lord Grantley say, that he would never warrant his horse sound. He might be worth 50l. or he might not be worth 5l. When his lordship was coming

coming away, he told them they might take 20l. for him.

Lord Kenyon observed, that this was a cause between persons of considerable distinction, but that it must be determined without any regard to personal considerations. That there was no warrantry in this case, was sufficiently proved. If the person selling goods knows of no infirmity in what he exposes to sale, he is not bound to disclose that which he did not know, and he may therefore retain the price. But there was a middle case between these two extremes, and the Jury would consider whether this was not that middle case. If a person knows there is some imperfection in a horse, and sells him for sound, I think, said his Lordship, that person sins both against the law of morality, and against the law of the land: he ought to have disclosed every infirmity which he knew. That Lord Grantley knew his horse's eyes were weak, was evident from the testimony of Mr. Fielding. There was another question in this case highly important, and that was, whether upon evidence, it appeared that the price this horse sold for was adequate? If it was, he would not say that any fraud had been practised. His Lordship stated the evidence on both sides, that related to this point. He said the case was reduced to this, Whether the price at which the horse was sold, was adequate to the situation in which Lord Grantley knew the horse was? The whole was bottomed upon this: that no man in possession of a secret fault of his property, ought to take that property to market, and to take a sound price for it, when the purchaser would not have given so high a price had this defect been disclosed to him by the seller.—Verdict for the plaintiff 20l. MSS.

To the EDITORS of the SPORTING MAGAZINE.

GENTLEMEN,

I HAVE translated the following anecdotes from St. Foix's History of the City of Paris. As they arose from hunting, they cannot be unacceptable to the lovers of that manly sport, and are communicated with pleasure

By your humble Servant,

T. N.

HUNTING ANECDOTES.

Translated from M. DE St. FOIX'S HISTORY *of* PARIS.

IN 1599, the Marshal de Beaumonier was hunting one day in the Forest of Maine, when his servants brought to him a man of an extraordinary appearance, whom they had taken asleep in a thicket: on his forehead grew two horns, exactly resembling those of a ram; his head was bald, and his beard was red and woolly, as satyrs are represented. The circumstance was so singular that they instantly quitted the chase, and conducted the man to Paris, where, after gratifying the Court, he was given to a showman or keeper of wild beasts. His vexation at being exposed to public view in the neighbouring fairs and markets was so extreme, that he lived only three months, and was buried in the church-yard of St. Come. The turn of his epitaph has little to recom-

recommend it, but probably at that time it did not want admirers.

Near this foot-worn path is laid,
A cuckold strange whom Nature made;
Horns he wore, yet had no wife;
Pray for his bliss in future life.

Singular Entertainment given to the French King Charles *the* XIth, *after hunting.*

Charles the XIth, attended by his court, had been hunting in the neighbourhood of Carcassone.—After the stag had been taken, a gentleman of the neighbourhood invited the king to a dinner which he had provided for him. At the conclusion of the banquet the ceiling of the hall suddenly opened, a thick cloud descended, and burst over their heads like a storm of thunder, pouring forth a shower of sugar plums instead of hail, and was succeeded by a gentle rain of rose-water.

St. Foix.

Anecdote of Francis I.

When Francis I. was at Amboise, among other diversions for the ladies, he ordered an enormous wild boar he had caught in the forest, to be let loose in the court before the castle. The animal, enraged by the small darts and whisps of straw thrown at him from the windows, ran furiously up the grand staircase, and burst open the door of the ladies apartment. Francis ordered his officers not to attack him, and waited deliberately to receive him with the point of his hanger, which he dexterously plunged between his eyes, and, with a forcible grasp, turned the boar upon his back. This prince was then but one and twenty.

St. Foix.

Anecdote of Charles V.

Charles the Fifth, after hunting all day with the Emperor Charles the Fourth, 1378, returned to the palace, where a magnificent dinner was provided in the great hall. The French monarch placed himself between the Emperor and the King of the Romans: towards the close of the entertainment, the *entremet*, or perspective, was introduced. a magnificent barge completely rigged, came under full sail, by means of concealed springs, into the midst of the hall; streamers adorned with the arms of the city of Jerusalem; Godfrey, of Boulogne, distinguishable upon the deck, accompanied by several knights armed at all points. In a moment the city of Jerusalem is discovered; her towers covered with Saracens. The barge anchors, the Christians land, and begin the assault; the beseiged make a gallant defence, many scaling ladders are overturned; but at length the city is taken. To conclude this hunting repast, water was brought to the guests; the King and the Emperor washed in the same ewer, and were then regaled with sweetmeats and spices.

St. Foix.

Anecdote of a Faithful Dog.

Aubri de Mondidier, hunting in the forest of Condi, was murdered and buried under a tree. He was always attended by a favourite dog, attached to him in a very singular manner. This dog would not quit his master's grave for several days, till at length compelled by hunger, he went to the house of an intimate friend of the unfortunate Aubri's, at Paris, and by his melancholy howling, seemed desirous of expressing

pressing the loss they had both sustained. He repeated his cries, ran to the door, then looked back to see if any person followed him, returned to his master's friend, pulled him by the sleeve, and, with dumb eloquence, entreated him to go with him. The singularity of all the actions of the dog; his coming there without his master, whose faithful companion he had always been; the sudden disappearance of his master, &c. induced the company to follow the dog, who conducted them to the fatal tree; where he renewed his howl, scratching the earth with his feet, pointing out as well as he could, the spot they should search. Accordingly, upon digging, the body of the unhappy Aubri was found.

Some time after, the dog met the assassin, the Chevalier Macaire, when, instantly seizing him by the throat, it was with great difficulty that he was compelled to quit his prey. Whenever he saw him afterwards, he pursued and attacked him with equal fury. Such obstinate virulence in the dog, exhibited only to Macaire, appeared very extraordinary to those who recollected the dog's fondness for his master; and at the same time several instances wherein Macaire had manifested his envy and hatred to Aubri de Mondidier, with other additional circumstances, encreased suspicion, which at length was communicated to the Royal ear. The King sent for the dog: he appeared extremely gentle, till perceiving Macaire in the midst of twenty nobles, he ran instantly towards him, growling, and flew at him as usual.

In those times, when no positive proof of a crime could be procured, an order was issued for a combat between the accuser and the accused. This was denominated *The Judgment of God*, from a persuasion that Heaven would sooner work a miracle, than suffer innocence to perish with infamy. The King, struck with such a collection of circumstantial evidence against Macaire, resolved to refer the decision to the *chance of war*, and commanded a *combat* between the Chevalier and the dog. The lists were appointed in the *Isle of Notre Dame*, then an uninclosed place. Macaire's weapon was a large cudgel; the dog had an empty cask allowed for his retreat, in order to recover breath. The combatants being ready, the dog no sooner found himself at liberty than he ran round his adversary, avoiding his blows, and menacing him on every side till his strength was exhausted; then, springing forward, he griped Macaire by the throat, and threw him on the ground, where he confessed his crime before the King, and afterwards suffered death for the murder of the dog's master. This circumstance is recorded by the hand of a painter in the castle of Montarsis, and has the confirmation of Scaliger and Father Montfaucon. Oliver de la Marche says, this faithful animal lived in the reign of Louis VIII.

St. Foix.

The Austrian Method of Hunting.

To the Editors of the Sporting Magazine.

Gentlemen,

YOUR sporting readers will doubtless be amused with the following account of a hunt in Austria, at which the present Duke of Hamilton and Dr. Moore assisted. The particulars are related

lated by the doctor, who accompanied the Duke on his travels, and may, therefore, be relied on:

"I returned very lately," says that judicious traveller, "from Prince Litchtenstein's house, at Felberg, in Austria, where I passed a few days very agreeably. The Litchtenstein family is one of the first in this country, whether considered in point of antiquity, wealth, or dignity. This prince, besides his lands in Austria, has considerable estates in Bohemia, Moravia, and that part of Silesia which belongs to the emperor. Like Prince Esterhasie, he has body-guards in his own pay. I believe no other subjects in Europe retain this distinction.

Felberg is a fine old mansion, about forty miles from Vienna. The apartments are large, convenient, and furnished in the magnificent style which prevails in the noblemen's houses of this country. The company consisted of the prince and princess, the Count Degenteldt, and his lady, a very accomplished woman; the Duke of Hamilton, Mr. Milnes, an English officer, another English gentleman, and myself. Our entertainment was in every respect splendid, particularly in the article of attendants. Some of the Austrian nobility carry this point of magnificence to a height, which could hardly be supported by the best estates in England, where one footman is more expensive than four in this country.

The day after our arrival, breakfast was served to the company separately in their own apartments, as is the custom here. We afterwards set out for another villa belonging to this prince, at six miles distance, where he intended to give the Duke of Hamilton the amusement of hunting. The Princess, the Countess Degenfeldt, the Duke, and Captain Milnes, were in one coach: the prince, the count, and I, in another; the two young princes, with their governor, in a third, with a great retinue on horseback.

As the day was well advanced when we arrived, I imagined the hunting would begin immediately; but every thing is done with method and good order in this country, and it was judged proper to dine in the first place. This, in due time, being concluded, I thought the men would have proceeded directly to the scene of action, leaving the ladies till their return: but here I found myself again mistaken—the ladies were to assist in the whole of this expedition. But as there was a necessity to traverse a large wood, into which coaches could not enter, vehicles of a more commodious construction were prepared. I forget what name is given to these carriages. They are of the form of benches, with stuffed seats, upon which six or eight people may place themselves one behind the other. They are drawn by four horses, and slide over the ground like a sledge, passing along paths and trackless ways, over which no wheel carriage could be drawn.

Being conveyed in this manner across the wood, and a considerable way beyond it, we came to a large open field, in which there were several little circular inclosures of trees and underwood, at wide intervals from each other. This hunting had hitherto been attended with very little fatigue; for we had been carried the whole way in coaches, or

or on the sledges, which are still easier than any coach. In short, we had been perfectly passive since breakfast, except during the time of dinner.

But when we arrived at this large plain, I was informed, that the hunting would commence within a very short time. I then expected we should have some violent exercise, after so much inactivity, and began to fear that the ladies might be over fatigued, when, lo! the prince's servants began to arrange some portable chairs, at a small distance from one of the thickets above-mentioned. The princess, countess, and the rest of the company took their places, and when every body was seated, they assured me that the hunting was just going to begin.

My curiosity, I own, was now excited in a very uncommon degree, and I was filled with impatience to see the issue of a hunting which had been conducted in a stile so different from any idea I had of that diversion. While I sat lost in conjecture, I perceived at a great distance, a long line of people, moving towards the little wood, near which the company was seated. As they walked along, they gradually formed the segment of a circle, whose center was this wood. I understood that these were peasants, with their wives and children, who, walking forward in this manner, rouse the game, which naturally take shelter in the thickest of trees and bushes. As soon as this happened, the peasants rushed in at the side opposite to that where our company had taken post, beat out the game, and then the massacre began.

Each person was provided with a fusil, and many more were at hand loaded for immediate use. The servants were employed in charging, as fast as the pieces were fired off, so that an uninterrupted shooting was kept up as long as the game continued flying or running out of the wood. The prince hardly ever missed. He, himself, killed above thirty partridges, a few pheasants, and three hares.

At the beginning of this scene, I was much surprised to see a servant hand a fusil to the princess, who, with great coolness, and without rising from her seat, took aim at a partridge, which immediately fell to the ground. With the same ease, she killed ten or twelve partridges and pheasants, at about double the number of shots. The execution done by the rest of the company, was by no means considerable.

Though I had not heard of it before, I now understood that shooting is not an uncommon amusement with the German ladies; and it is probable that the attention to the delicacy of the fair sex, has induced the hardy Germans to render this diversion so little fatiguing.

The company afterwards walked to the other little enclosures of planting, where some game was driven out, and killed as before. The following day the prince conducted us to another of his seats, where there is a fine open wood, full of deer of every kind, some of the largest I ever saw. There is also a great number of wild boars, one of which, by the prince's permission, the Duke of Hamilton killed. Nothing could surpass the politeness and magnificence with which the company were entertained, during the whole of their abode with this hospitable prince.

DRINKING.

To the Editors *of the* Sporting Magazine.

GENTLEMEN,

I HAVE minutely examined the contents of your proposal, and heartily approve of the plan you have adopted. Give me leave to remind you, however, that an article of the first consequence in such a Miscellany as you propose, has wholly escaped your attention. Among all your sports, diversions, and amusements, that of drinking has neither been mentioned, nor alluded to, though it ought to have taken the precedence in your extensive list.

Give me leave, therefore, humbly to propose, that drinking may be exalted to the rank it claims in your periodical performance. Every sportsman is a lover of his bottle, provided it be not an empty one. I know not which is most enchanting to behold, the much-famed Diomed, or the capacious honest quart, filled with the nectarious juice. The noble quadruped, indeed, with his graceful symmetry and proportion, exhibits the standard of perfection in that generous race of animals; but look at the alluring bottle! how stately! how erect! and how delicious are its contents!

Different men have very different ideas of excellence and greatness: some are extravagant in their praises of the premier, on account of his ability and integrity; others bestow equal commendations on his colleague, for having the art of being all things to all men. Many have declared that Powell, the pedestrian, is the greatest man in all the world; but I say the greatest man in all the world, is he who can carry off the contents of the greatest number of bottles, under his girdle. Even the Captain Bobadil, of the united troops of the Emperor, and his Majesty of Brandenburg, appeared less glorious in my estimation, when he threatened to eat up all the Parisians at a mouthful.

His Majesty, by and with the advice of his Privy Council, has often been most graciously pleased to hold out bounties for the encouragement of those who endeavour to excel in arts, agriculture, &c. but I never remember to have seen any bounty advertised to encourage the circulators of the bottle. It is, indeed, our duty, as members of the state, to swallow as much wine as we are able. By drinking copiously, we add greatly to the revenue, the duty on the importation of wine being very considerable: but I am still of opinion, that a bounty, on certain conditions, would induce many to exert themselves; for bribery is sometimes necessary, even to engage us to do our duty.

Though I am so strong an advocate for drinking, and consider it as one of the cardinal virtues, my abilities in that line are rather below mediocrity. I am not a *professor* in that science, though I acknowledge myself an *amateur*. I never flinch upon duty, so long as I can keep my post; but six or seven bottles to my own share, generally *does me up*. I begin to be mellow towards the conclusion of the second bottle; during the continuance of the third, I am always gay, and sometimes brilliant. I am frequently much damaged, before I have exhausted the contents of the fourth. Before I have completed my fifth, I stare and look as sagacious as an

an owl. The sixth or seventh bottle renders my seat untenable, and I yield obedience to the potent god, by sinking under the scene of action.

If you hear of any thing great in my way, I hope you will favour us with the particulars, as such intelligence would be highly interesting to your readers, and particularly to

Your obsequious servant,

BIBO.

P. S. I'll lay fifty guineas to ten, that I produce a man who shall drink with any one you shall name, and give him two bottles.

An advantageous PROPOSAL.

To the Editors *of the* Sporting Magazine.

GENTLEMEN,

THOUGH almost a stranger to the turf and the chase, I sometimes pay my devoirs to the capricious goddess; and, upon the whole, have reason to think myself a kind of favourite with her. I have occasionally been a bull and a bear, but never was a web-footed animal, notwithstanding I have been about the alley for upwards of twenty years.

We are, in general, more equitable in our play about 'Change, than any of your most noble and right honorable gamesters west of the metropolis: in certain cases they can legally recover the money they may chance to win, and boldly prosecute their suit in the Courts at Westminster; but the debts of the alley are wholly *debts of honour*, and nothing compulsive or coercive must, on any consideration, be put in practice to enforce the payment of them.

Having thus made it apparent that I am a brother sportsman, you would suppose me to be in earnest when I assure you that I highly approve of your undertaking, and wish it prosperity and success. But lest you should not give me credit for my bare assurances they shall be supported with facts, which are demonstrable by the most shallow arithmetician.—Whenever you, or any of your readers, should have a fortunate run at play, you would wish to know how to dispose of the winnings to the best advantage, and on the best security: attend therefore to the following simple calculation:

Always purchase in the *four per cent. consols*, instead of the *three per cent. consols*; the security of the former is equal to that of the latter, and the advantage infinitely greater. For example, the *three per cents.* are now at 91, and the *four per cents.* at 102.

1100*l.* 3 per cents. will therefore cost 1001*l.* and only produce 33*l.* per annum.

975*l.* 4 per cents. will only cost 994*l.* 10*s.* and produce 39*l.*

The advantage is consequently more than 6*l.* per annum upon the interest of 1000*l.*

It is astonishing that people, having their eyes open, should not have made and attended to this calculation. Three reasons, however, have occurred to me why the *three per cents.* are so generally coveted in preference to the other consolidated stock. Vanity is one of the motives. Those who accumulate money by the sweat of the brow, are willing to purchase in the funds that they may boast of their riches; and they have the reputation among their needy neighbours of having an hundred pounds in the bank, when in fact they have only ninety-

ninety-one pounds there. The second reason perhaps is, a prudent man, whose advances towards riches are very slow and gradual, chooses to purchase stock the very instant he is enabled so to do. He can set his ninety-one pounds to work as soon as he has completed that sum; but should he wait five or six months to make it one hundred and two pounds, the ninety-one pounds would all that time remain idle and unemployed.

Another reason is perhaps, more prevalent than the other two: an avaricious old gentleman, who wishes to take the most frugal method of fortuning off a daughter, is sure to purchase in the *three per cents*, because, if he gives with her a nominal ten thousand pounds, (which is certainly the case in this fund), he saves a thousand pounds; and the husband is still induced to think he has received a fortune of ten thousand pounds with his wife—the world will doubtless make it twenty thousand.

I would offer my services to you, gentlemen, as a broker; but, that you may not suppose me your correspondent merely from interested motives, my name and place of abode shall remain a secret to you.—My initials are

G. W.

Nov. 3, 1792.

Origin of Cards *and* Dice.

(Concluded from page 27.)

THE union, which was effected by the marriage of Prince Arthur with the Infanta Catharina, of Arragon, brought on an intimacy between Spain and England, which probably created an increase of card-playing in this country; it being a diversion to which the Spaniards were extremely addicted at this period. Cards were certainly much in use, and all ideas concerning them very familiar to the minds of the English, in the reign of Henry the Eighth, as may be collected from a sermon of good Bishop Latimer.

The habits of card-playing have also been much confirmed and enlarged by the marriage of Philip of Spain with our Queen Mary, whose numerous and splendid retinue could not but bring with them that passionate love of cards which prevailed in the Spanish court; it seems probable also, that the cards then used (whatever they might have been before) were of Spanish form and figure, in compliment to the imperious Philip: since, even to this day, the names of two Spanish suits are retained on English cards, though without any reference to their present figure.

The love of card-playing wss continued through the reigns of Elizabeth and James the First. While the latter filled the throne, it had arrived at so high a pitch, that it was customary for the audience to amuse themselves with cards at a play-house, while they were waiting for the beginning of the play. There is no reason to imagine that the fondness of this diversion decreased, except during the short trump of triumph of the fanatic suit, when cards would certainly be stiled the devil's books. We find, indeed, that they had become an engine of much fraud and destruction at this time; in consequence of which, an act of parliament passed in the reign of the second Charles, levying large penalties on those who should use them fraudulently.

For

For the Sporting Magazine.

THE following is a copy of a private letter from a gentleman of Sydney Town, in Cape Breton, to his brother in England, describing the Indian manner of winter-hunting, and some interesting particulars respecting that settlement:

DEAR BROTHER,

THE whole face of the waters, and of the land, is now covered with one unbounded sheet of snow; the heavens are perfectly free from clouds; and the sun, though at a great distance from us, smiles cheerfully. His rays play upon the hills and valleys, to give the whole the appearance of myriads of blazing diamonds. The lofty pines upon the mountains are cased in lucid ice; every germ or sprig is covered with a coat of this gelid incrustration: in a word our island may now, with strict propriety, be called the snow-white world.

We are not, however, without our diversions. The poor animals which inhabit these regions, are become infinitely more tame, for want of food, than they are at another season; being insulated, they cannot safely seek a milder climate; and now the European, as well as the savage, engages in the chace. I am just now returned from hunting. Could you but see me, my dear brother, in my hunting-dress, you would think me a strange monster; my feet are covered with the Indian moorkeeson, or shoe, with a large snow-shoe over each. I have also my wood-trowsers, and three-cornered cap, to keep the snow from lodging; in short, I am perfectly savage from top to toe.

Equipped thus, with my gun, powder-horn, and blanket at my back, I set off yesterday morning with my old friend Benwah, and his two boys, to hunt moose, carabon, bear, lucifee, or any other creature, for food or profit. We have had excellent sport, and I am returned, loaded with flesh and fowl. Our moose afforded much diversion, led us a nice chase, and amused us a long time before we could kill him. Our mode of hunting in the winter, would surprise you:—we waddle in our snow-shoes, like so many impatient ducks to the pool; you will of course conclude, that the game has the better chance to escape us; but this is by no means the case; for this animal being very weighty, and having sharp hoofs, frequently sinks into holes, where the snow is drifted up to his back, whence he cannot recover himself, but with great difficulty. This gives us an opportunity of coming up with him; and the dogs, having light bodies, seldom sink like the deer.

In the course of yesterday's chace, the moose was ten times buried, and at the last sinking, we came up before he could extricate himself; when Benwah's elder boy leaped on the defenceless creature, and instantly cut his throat. We were here joined by several savage hunters, who are exceedingly tenacious of holding the sole privilege of ranging their native woods: Benwah knew this, and thus addressed Dominique, who understands our language—"*This is one as my brother; he comes to us at my request, to take pleasure, not to hunt for profit, like savage man—let us use him with kindness.*"

After this introduction, we proceeded together as friends and countrymen. The moose were in

great plenty, and we were soon again in the chace. The dogs, as if they delighted in procrastinating the destruction of the game, would often lose him by design; and then, crossing upon him, scud at his haunches with a most clamorous peal, affording great pleasure to their savage masters; who, at this moment, set up a sort of chorus, by no means unpleasant to a musical ear.—Away goes the moose, sometimes sinking up to his noble chest: the hunters waddling after on account of the action of throwing one snow-shoe over the other—a sight so awkward to your English Sportsmen, that he would pity their toil, rather than envy their enjoyment; but practice makes many seeming hardships perfectly easy. I can assure you that, in one of these excursions, I forget the severity of the season, and feel a glow, which communicates health and happiness to my whole frame.

The moose being killed and opened, we spread our blankets on the snow, took off our snow-shoes, sat in a circle, and began to regale ourselves. My rum was very acceptable. We smoaked a-while over it, as pleasantly as ever my shipmates and I did at our old quarters, when we got the good-natured, story-telling gunner of Gosport among us.

While we were thus entertaining ourselves, the two boys (for they were not yet admitted to the circle of men) prepared the deer for division, and gorged the dogs. One of our companions, old savage Dominique, inclined to be a little quarrelsome, because I gave Benwah too great a portion of the rum.

Human nature is, I find, in all parts, the same. I have been with the woolly negro at the Line, the black-eyed Chinese of the East, the unlettered savage of New Breton, and your refined courtier of the West; and when I compare the various passions which actuate the human soul, I find no difficulty in pronouncing them all brothers. "The European," said the old savage, "has no right to our land; God gave it to the savage man; why not European be satisfied with the country God gave to him."

This, when intoxicated, is their constant language; a circumstance which your government should not lose sight of; for when the military are sent home, as I understand is to be the case, and the savages are more numerous than the town's people, it is an hundred to one but they cut all our throats, for daring to invade their shores. But I digress: Dominique was proceeding, but I stopped his mouth with a bumper. By this time the moose was ready, and the old man got up to divide the burthens. He made a signal, and they all turned their backs; then, laying his hands upon a lot, he bid the youngest speak; then the next and so on, till the whole was disposed of; but he took care to leave the lightest load for himself, which I mentioned to him in a jocular way; and he, in excuse, said, it would be some time before it came to his turn to divide burthens again. Each man having his load of moose in his blanket, we all set off cheerfully through the woods, and the savages safely conducted me to Sydney. This is the mode of winter-hunting among us.

It is, at this moment, extremely cold; though I am sitting close to a pro-

a prodigious fire of excellent sea-coal, with a large log, over all, the ink in my standish freezes.—Be not surprised at my mentioning sea-coal; for we have it about eight miles below the town, in great abundance, and for eight shillings the chaldron. This was a great blessing to us, the inhabitants, till our governor laid on a duty of six shillings, and so raised the chaldron to fourteen shillings.

[Some severe strictures follow, on the conduct of the Governor, which we dare not venture to insert.]

Yours, &c.

N. B. I send this by Captain Raymond, who will convey it to you from Guernsey.

To the Editors *of the* Sporting Magazine.

Gentlemen,

THE following intercepted letter, concerning an imprudent gamester, came accidentally into my hands. Though it savours too much of asperity on the subject it investigates, it contains many just and pertinent observations on the abuse of it. It also conveys some necessary hints which may be particularly serviceable to young players: you will therefore oblige me by giving it a place in your Magazine. If you indulge me in this instance, you may probably find a useful correspondent, in

Your obedient servant,

EDGAR.

The unfortunate PLAYER.

DEAR CHARLES,

THE fate of poor D——— is finally decided, and he now discovers, that to be ruined is not a matter of such indifference as he once imagined. I neither see the possibility of his extricating himself from his present difficulties, nor in what manner he will be able to support them. Accustomed to every indulgence, how can he bear the inconveniences of poverty? Dissipated and inattentive from his childhood, how can he make any exertion for himself? His good humour, genteel figure, and pliant disposition, made him well received by all.

While he formed no expectations from their friendship, his company seemed particularly pleasing to some who are at present in power; but whether it will be equally so now, when he has nothing else to depend on, is to be tried; and I really think it is as well for him that it be tried now, as five or six years hence.

This calamity has been long foreseen; there seemed to be almost a necessity that it should happen sooner or later, for he had neither caution, plan, nor object in his gaming; he continued it from habit alone. Of all mankind he was the least covetous of excessive wealth: and, exclusive of gaming, he always lived within his income; not from a desire of saving money, but merely because he had no taste for great expence. How often have we seen him lose immense sums, to those who could never have paid the half, had he happened to be the winner; and to some of whom he had lent the money, which enabled them to stake against him.

There are many careless young men of great fortunes, who game in the same style, and from no other motive than those of our unhappy friend. — What is the consequence?—The money circulates

culates for a while among them, but remains finally with persons of a very different character. I shall not suppose that any of the very fortunate gamesters we have been acquainted with, have used those means to collect fortunes, which are generally reckoned fraudulent. I am fully persuaded that they are seldomer practised in the clubs in London, than in any other of those societies in the world. Let all slight of hand, and every species of downright sharping, be put out of the question; but still we may suppose that, among a great number of careless inattentive people of fortune, a few wary, cool, and shrewd men are mingled, who know how to conceal real caution and design under apparent inattention and gaiety of manner, —who have a perfect command of themselves—push their luck when fortune smiles, and refrain when she changes her disposition; who have calculated the changes, and understand every game where judgment is required.

If there are such men, is not the probability of winning infinitely in their favour? Does it not amount to almost as great a certainty, as if they had actually loaded the dice, or packed the cards?—I know you live in the habit of intimacy with some who answer to the above description; and I have heard you say, that however fortunate they may have been, you were fully convinced that nothing can be fairer than their manner of playing. I accuse them of taking no other advantage than those above mentioned: but I appeal to your own experience—pray recollect—and I am greatly mistaken if you will not find, that by far the greatest part of those who have made fortunes by play, and have kept them when made, are men of cool, cautious, shrewd, and selfish characters.

If any of these very fortunate people were brought to a trial, and examined by what means they had accumulated such sums, while so many others had entirely lost, or greatly impaired, their fortunes, they might answer in the words of the wife of Concini, Marechal d'Ancre, when she was asked what charm she had made use of, to fascinate the mind of the queen?—"The charm," said she, "which superior abilities have always over weaker minds." Certainly there can be no greater weakness, than for a man of independent fortune, to game in such a manner as to risk the losing of it, for the chance of adding to his income; because the additional happiness arising from any supposable addition of wealth, can never be within a thousand degrees so great, as the misery which would be the consequence of his being stripped of his original fortune.

This consideration alone, one would imagine, would be sufficient to deter any reasonable man from a conduct so weak and absurd; yet there are other considerations which give much additional weight to the argument; the effects which the continued practice of gaming has sometimes been observed to produce in the disposition of the mind, and the most essential parts of the character; destroying every idea of œconomy, engrossing the whole time, undermining the best principles, perverting the qualities of the heart, rendering men callous to the ruin of acquaintances, and partakers, with a savage insensibility, in the spoils of their unwary friends.

The

The peculiar instances with which you and I are acquainted, where the long-continued habit of deep play has had no such effects, are proofs of the rooted honour and integrity of certain individuals; and may serve as exceptions to a general rule, but cannot be urged as arguments against the usual tendency of gaming. If men of fortune and character adopted the practice of gaming upon any principle of reasoning, there might be a greater probability of their being reasoned out of it; but most of them began to game, not with any view or fixed plan of increasing their wealth, but merely as a fashionable amusement, or perhaps by way of shewing the liberality of their spirit, and their contempt for money.

Your's, &c.

S. D.

History of Boxing.

(Continued from page 14.)

HAVING, in our preceding Number, related the progress of pugilism prior to the days of Broughton, we come now to mention, that about the year 1742, the public practice of that science was nearly as regular as any of the exhibitions at present, the theatres only excepted.—It was then not only patronized by the nobility, but tolerated by the magistrates. Accordingly, in addition to what passed in Moorfields, Smithfield, and other places, previous to the establishment of Broughton's amphitheatre, a booth, erected by Taylor, in Tottenham-court-road, was not the least in reputation. It was here that George Taylor, the proprietor, invited the professors of the art to display their skill, by advertisements in the public papers; and such was then the emoluments of the pugilists, that as they shared the entrance-money, it often amounted to 100 or 150l. The general mode of division was, two-thirds to the winning champion, and the remaining third to the loser; though sometimes, by an express agreement of the parties, the conqueror and the vanquished shared alike.

As the advertisements of boxers at that period will probably be looked upon as curiosities, by the amateurs and the judicious observer of manners and customs, perhaps the following specimen of a challenge, and its answer, will not be estimated as foreign to our purpose:

AT GEORGE TAYLOR'S BOOTH,
Tottenham-court-road,
May 4, 1742.

There will be a trial of manhood here to-morrow, between the following champions, viz.
"Whereas I John Francis, commonly known by the name of the *Jumping Soldier*, who have always had the reputation of a good fellow, and have fought several bruisers in the street, &c. nor am I ashamed to mount the stage when my manhood is called in question by an Irish Braggadocia, whom I fought some time ago (in bye battle), for twelve minutes, and though I had not the success due to my courage and ability in the art of boxing, I now invite him to fight me for two guineas, at the time and place above-mentioned, where I doubt not but I shall give him the truth of a good beating.

"JOHN FRANCIS."

THE

THE IRISHMAN'S ANSWER.

"I Patrick Henley, known to "every one for the truth of a "good fellow, who never refused "any one, on or off the stage, "and fight as often for the diver- "sion of gentlemen as for money, "do accept the challenge of this "*Jumping Jack*: and shall, if he "don't take care, give him one "of my botherlng blows, which "will convince him of his ignor- "ance in the art of boxing.

"PATRICK HENLEY."

This public parade, and the success of the booth in Tottenham-court-road, induced the friends of Broughton to persuade him to open his amphitheatre in Oxford-road; which accordingly took place immediately: part of the expences of this building was defrayed by the subscription of a number of the nobility and gentry. It bore the name of Broughton's new amphitheatre, and was very commodious. Besides the stage for the combatants, it had seats corresponding to boxes, pit, and galleries, much in the same manner with those at Astley's. But, notwithstanding, several bye-matches were fought in this amphitheatre before its opening was formally announced by the following advertisement in the spring of 1743.

March 10, 1743.

"At Broughton's new amphi- "theatre in Oxford-road, the "back of the late Mr. Fig's, on "Tuesday next, the 13th instant, "will be exhibited the true art "of boxing, by the eight famed "following men, viz. Abraham "Evans, Sweep, Belos, Glover, "Roger, Allen, Robert Spikes, "Harry Gray, and the Clog- "maker. The above eight men "are to be brought on the stage, "and to be matched according to "the approbation of the gentlemen "who shall be pleased to honour "them with their company.— "*Note*. There will be a battle- "royal between the noted *Buck-* "*horse*, and seven or eight more; "after which there will be several "bye-battles by others. Gentle- "men are therefore desired to come "by times. The doors will open "at nine; the champions mount at "eleven, and no person is to pay "more than a shilling."

This advertisement, and the growing consequences of Broughton, gave such an alarm to George Taylor, who justly considered him as a rival, that, to oppose him, he immediately published the following appeal:

"To all Encouragers of the manly "art of Boxing.

"WHEREAS Mr. Broughton "has maliciously advertised se- "veral battles to be fought at "his amphitheatre, on Tuesday "next, the 13th of March, in "order to injure me, who am to "fight Mr. Field the same day at "Tottenham-court, I think it "incumbent on me to undeceive "the public, by informing them "that the greatest part of the per- "sons mentioned to fight there, "never intended any such thing, "or were ever acquainted with "it. Mr. Broughton has like- "wise inserted in his bills, that "he never practised any impo- "sition on the champions who "fought at his amphitheatre, and "has in vain endeavoured to "make it appear; but I shall "openly discover his impositions "to the world with all possible "expedition. And to convince "Mr. Broughton that I have no "disgust

disgust against him or his amphitheatre, I am willing to fight him for one hundred pounds, whenever he pleases, not in the least regarding, as he expresses himself, the valour of his arm.

"George Taylor."

Mr. Broughton, in reply to this declaration, stated, that he had received but eighty pounds from the public, towards the four hundred pounds he had expended in the erection of his amphitheatre; and added, on that account he thought it but fair and reasonable to appropriate a third part of the door-money to himself; the rest going to his champions. In fine, the public, and the amateurs in general, siding with Broughton, Taylor and his confederates, finding themselves deserted, soon entered into a coalition with him, and were engaged by Broughton, under articles, to fight on no other stage: and in this engagement they found their account. Mr. Broughton being now constituted sole manager, began to think about the necessary laws and regulations for his stage; and, accordingly, with the advice and approbation of several gentlemen, seven principal rules were drawn up; as these are not extant in any of the histories of boxing, we have carefully collected them for the gratification of our readers.—They are as follow:

Rules *to be observed in all* Battles *on the* Stage, *as agreed to by several* Gentlemen *at* Mr. Broughton's, *August* 26, 1743.

I. That a square of a yard be chalked in the middle of the stage; and, on every fresh set-to after a fall, or being parted from the rails, each second is to bring his man to the side of the square, and place him opposite to the other; and till they are fairly set-to at the line, it shall not be lawful for the one to strike the other.

II. That in order to prevent any disputes the time a man lies after a fall, if the second does not bring his man to the side of the square within the space of half a minute, he shall be deemed a beaten man.

III. That in every main battle no person whatever shall be upon the stage except the principals and their seconds; the same rule to be observed in bye-battles, except that, in the latter, Mr. Broughton is allowed to be on the stage to keep decorum, and assist gentlemen to get their places; provided always he does not interfere in the battle; and whoever pretends to infringe these rules, to be turned immediately out of the house. Every body is to quit the stage as soon as the champions are stripped, before they set-to.

IV. That no champion be deemed beaten, unless he fails coming up to the line within the limited time; or that his own second declares him beaten. No second is to be allowed to ask his man's adversary any questions, or advise him to give out.

V. That, in bye-battles, the winning man to have two-thirds of the money given, which shall be publicly divided upon the stage; notwithstanding any private agreement to the contrary.

VI. That to prevent disputes in every main battle, the principals shall, on their coming on the stage, choose from among the gentlemen present, two umpires, who shall absolutely decide all disputes that

Several writers on the subject of horses, speak of this young prince's attachment to equestrian exercises, with regard to hunting as well as the menage; and mention the hopes that were once conceived of the advantages the kingdom would derive from the studs which he had formed, and the races he had established.

In this reign the merit of the English horses began to be so evident, that many were purchased and sent into France, where they continue to be much valued and admired. Great numbers are now annually sent into that republic, as well as into Holland, Poland, Germany, and other places.

Bassompiere, in his memoirs, gives us the following account of their first introduction into France: "The court," says he, "being at Fontainbleau, it was the practice to play for large and serious sums; and the circulation being extremely brisk, the courtiers called the counters, which represented money, *Quinterots*, because they passed and repassed from one player to another, with as much celerity and rapidity as the English horses were known to run: they were called *Quinterots*, from the name of the person who had brought them into France the year before." He further observes, "that English horses were so much admired for their speed, that they have, since that time, been always employed in hunting, and on the road; a practice till then unknown."

Towards the conclusion of this reign, it appears that the English method of keeping and managing their horses, was thought so judicious, that France, and other neighbouring countries, have thought proper to imitate or copy them.

The reign of the first Charles was embroiled and distracted by scenes which were brought too much home to his own business and bosom, to permit him to attend to those arts and improvements which are the offspring of peace, and must be nursed by leisure and tranquillity. This king was, nevertheless, very fond of the menage; and, according to the testimonies of historians, a very judicious and accomplished horseman. As an instance of his attention to the art of riding, considered in a national and public light, he issued a proclamation in the third year of his reign, enjoining the use of bits instead of snaffles, which were used in the army at that time. This proclamation sets forth, that, "his Majesty finding by experience that such horses as were employed in the service, are more apt and fit to be managed, by such as shall ride them, by being accustomed to the bit than the snaffle; he therefore strictly charges and commands that no person (other than such only as his majesty, in respect of their attendance on his royal person, in times of disport, or otherwise, shell licence hereunto) shall, in riding, use any snaffle, but bits."

This was a judicious regulation; for bits are more becoming, and better suited to the troops; as snaffles are in general fitter for times of disport; by which it is presumed, racing and the chase were meant, and for which they were reserved.

When Charles the Second was restored, arts, sciences, and pleasures followed in his train, and were also restored to a nation, from which the troubles of the preceding reign, and Cromwell's interregnum, had driven them away. The laughter-loving monarch

narch greatly encouraged that branch of riding which is denominated racing: he gave public rewards and prizes, and delighted in being a spectator of the contests of the course. When he resided at Windsor, the horses ran on Datchet-mead: but the most distinguished spot for these spectacles was Newmarket; a place that, from the firmness of the ground, was first chosen, and has ever since been devoted to these sports, which are still as superior in England as those of Olympia are said to have been in Greece.

The glory of this scene now burst forth in its greatest splendour. The king honoured the races with his presence, and established a mansion for his reception. He even condescended to be a candidate, kept and entered horses in his own name, and, by his attention and generosity, added dignity, importance and lustre, to the institution over which he presided. Bells, the ancient rewards of swiftness, were now no longer given; a silver bowl, or cup, of the value of one hundred guineas, succeeded the tinkling prize. On this royal gift, the exploits of the successful horse, together with his pedigree, were usually engraved, to publish and perpetuate his fame. Several of these trophies are now to be seen in the possession of the descendants of sportsmen. The custom of keeping race-horses at Newmarket is still continued by the successors of this sovereign; but the sum of one hundred guineas is now substituted for the silver cup. The Duke of Newcastle informs us, that Charles had much knowledge in horses, and was an experienced and able rider.

James the Second has the honourable testimony of the Duke of Newcastle, with respect to his being a good horseman; but his reign was too short and troublesome to permit him to discover his sentiments and inclinations upon the subject of horses. He was a lover of hunting, and for that purpose preferred English horses, of which he had always several in his stables, after he became an inhabitant of France.

When William the Third ascended the throne, he not only added to the plates given to different places in the kingdom, but rendered a more necessary and important service to the country; he founded an academy for riding, and invited from France a very able and experienced horseman, Major Foubert, to preside over his institution.

Queen Anne continued the bounty of her predecessors, with the addition of several plates. Her royal consort, George prince of Denmark, is said to have taken infinite delight in horse racing, and to have obtained from the Queen the grants of several plates, allotted to different places.

Towards the close of the reign of George the First, he discontinued the plates, and in lieu of each gave the sum of one hundred guineas.

(To be concluded in our next.)

How to Angle for Barbel.

GESNER informs us, that the barbel is so called on account of the barb or beard which is under his nose or chaps. He is a leather-mouthed fish, and seldom breaks his hold when hooked; yet, if he happens to be a large one, he will often break both rod and line.

This

This fish is of a fine cast, and handsome shape, with small scales, which are placed after a most exact and curious manner. The fish is far from being delicious, and is supposed to be unwholesome; but the male is said to be better than the female. The spawn of a barbel is very pernicious, acting as a most powerful emetic and cathartic.

These fish swim together in large shoals, and are at their worst in April, at which time they spawn, but come soon into season. The places where they chiefly resort, are such as are weedy and gravelly rising grounds, in which they are said to dig with their noses like swine.

In summer, the barbel frequents the strongest, swiftest currents of the water, as deep bridges, wears, &c. &c. and often stations himself among the piles, hollow places, moss, or weeds, and will remain there motionless; but, at the approach of winter, he gradually retires into deep waters, and assists the female to make a hole in the sands, to conceal her spawn, and prevent its being devoured by the voracious tribe. The barbel is equally strong and cunning. If his baits are not sweet, clean, well scoured, and kept in sweet moss, he will not bite; but when well ordered, and curiously kept, he will bite with great eagerness.

The rod and line must have both length and strength, with a running plummet on the line; and a little bit of lead should be placed a foot or more above the hook, to keep the bullet from falling on it; so the worm will be at the bottom, where they always bite; and when the fish takes the bait, the plummet will lie, and not choak him. By the bending of the rod, you may know when he bites; as also with your hand you will feel him make a strong snatch; then strike, and you will rarely fail, if you play him well, and leave him; but if you do not manage him dexterously, he will break your line.

Fishing for barbel is rather a dull recreation: they are a sullen fish, and bite but slowly. The angler drops in his bait, the bullet at the bottom of the line fixes it to one spot of the river. Tired with waiting for a bite, he generally lays down the rod, and exercising the patience of a setting dog, waits till he sees the top of his rod move: then begins a struggle between him and the fish, which he calls his sport; and, that being over, he lands his prize, fresh baits his hook, and lays in for another.

Sir John Hawkins, in his notes on the Complete Angler, relates the following story:—"A lover of angling told me, he was fishing in the river Lea, at the ferry called Jeremy's, and had hooked a large fish at the time when some Londoners, with their horses, were passing: they congratulated him on his success, and got out of the ferry boat; but, finding the fish not likely to yield, mounted their horses, and rode off. The fact was, that angling for small fish, his bait had been taken by a barbel, too large for the fisher to manage. Not caring to risk his tackle by attempting to raise him, he hoped to tire him; and, for that purpose, suffered himself to be led (to use his own expression) as a blind man is by a dog, several yards up, and as many down, the bank of the river; in short, for so many hours, that the horsemen above-mentioned, who had been at Waltham, and dined, were returned; who, seeing him thus occupied, cried out—"What, master, another large fish?"—"No," says Piscator, "the very same."—

"Nay,"

"Nay," says one of them, "that can never be: for it is five hours since we crossed the river;" and ont believing him, they rode on their way. At length, our angler determined to do that which a less patient one would have done long before: he made one vigorous effort to land the fish, broke his tackle, and lost him."

The same intelligent knight furnishes us with another anecdote relating to this sullen fish:—"Living, some years ago," says he, "in a village on the banks of the Thames, I was used, in the summer months, to be much in a boat on the river. It happened that, at Shepperton, where I had been for a few days, I frequently passed an elderly gentleman in his boat, who appeared to be fishing, at different stations, for barbel. After a few salutations had passed between us, and we were become a little acquainted, I took occasion to enquire of him, what diversion he had met with. "Sir," says he, "I have had but bad luck to day; for I fish for barbel, and you know they are not to be caught like gudgeons."—"Very true," answered I; "but what you want in tale, I suppose you make up in weight."—"Why, Sir," replied he, "that is just as it happens: I like the sport, and love to catch fish: but my great delight is in GOING AFTER THEM. I'll tell you what, Sir," continued he, "I am a man in years, and have used the sea all my life [he had been an India captain]; but I mean to go no more, and have bought that little house which you see there [pointing to it] for the sake of fishing: I get into this boat [which he was then mopping] on a Monday morning, and fish on till Saturday night, for barbel, as I told you: for that is my delight: and this I have sometimes done for a month together, and in all that while have not had one bite."

The best bait for a barbel is the spawn of a salmon, trout, or any other fish; and, if you would wish to have good sport with him, bait the places where you intend to fish with it a night or two before, or with large worms cut in pieces; and the earlier in the morning, or the later in the evening, that you fish, the better it will be.

The lob-worm is also a very good bait, care being taken to cover the hook all over with the bait.

Green gentles are an excellent bait for barbel; and so are bits of tough cheese, laid in steep, for twenty-four hours, in clarified honey; with which if you bait the ground, you can hardly miss taking them, if there are any.

Graves, which are the sediment of tallow melted in the making of candles, cut into pieces, are an excellent ground bait for barbel, gudgeons, and many other fish, if thrown in the night before you angle.

Sir John Hawkins says, the young of wasps, hornets, and humble bees, are also good baits for barbel.

The properest time to fish for barbel, is the latter end of May, June, July, and the beginning of August.

DUCKS DEVOURED BY EELS.

A Fact related by Sir John Hawkins.

WHEN I lived at Twickenham, there was a large canal adjoining to my house, which I stocked with fish. I had, from time to time, broods of ducks, which, with their young ones, took the water. One dry summer,

mer, when the canal was very low, we missed many young ducks, but could not find out how they went. Resolving to take advantage of the lowness of the water, to clean the canal, a work which had not been done for thirty years before, I drained and emptied it, and found in the mud a great number of large eels. Some of them I reserved for the use of my family, which, being opened by the cook, surprised us all; for in the stomachs of many of them were found, undigested, the necks and heads of young ducks, which doubtless were those of the ducks we had missed. The fact seems to have been, that the water being shallow, they became an easy prey, and were pulled under by the eels.—*Cotton's Complete Angler*, 180.

Directions *for* Training Pointers.

BEFORE we enter into the particulars of this business, we shall say a little of the qualities of the dog, as well as of his amiable disposition, in order to induce the generality of the world to treat this faithful servant with more tenderness and respect in future. Strange that such ungrateful beings should exist, as to wish to make this animal an object of taxation, with a view of extirpating, as much as possible, the canine race!

Buffon, who perfectly knew nature, and all her works, and had the happiest talent of describing them, tells us, that the dog, from the great perfection of his intellect, is worthy to entertain society with man; he knows how to aid him in his designs, to watch for his security, to assist him with his powers, to defend him, and to flatter him. He knows, by assiduous services, and by repeated caresses, how to conciliate the affections of his master, and to captivate him, and, from a tyrant, to make him his protector.

The following observation, from Dr. Moore's late Travels into Italy, is so applicable to our present purpose, that we cannot withhold it from our readers:—

Among the natural curiosities about Naples," says that ingenious observer, " Grotto del Cane is famous for the poisonous steams which float within a foot of its surface. The sides of the grotto are marked with green, as high as the malignity of the vapour reaches. The following are the common experiments: A dog, having his nose held in the vapour, loses all signs of life in a very little time: but, if carried into the open air, or thrown into a neighbouring lake, he immediately recovers if he is not quite gone. This cruel experiment is usually made on dogs, because they, of all animals, shew the *greatest affection for men*, and *prefer his company* to that of *their own species*, or of any other living creature. The fellows who attend at this cave, have always some miserable dogs, with ropes about their necks, ready for this barbarous purpose."—*Moore's Tr.* II. 295.

The dog, independent of the beauty and symmetry of his form, of his vivacity, and of his agility, eminently possesses all those inferior qualities that can gain the affections of man, whom he sedulously seeks to please, and to whom he attaches himself with so much pleasure and sincerity. He approaches, in crouching and humble attitude, to lay at the feet of his master his courage, his strength, and his talents; he waits

waits his commands to exercise them; for these he consults him, he interrogates him; he supplicates him; a single glance of the eye is sufficient; he understands the signal of his will; he is all zeal, all ardour, all obedience. More sensible of kindness than of injury, he is neither repulsed nor discouraged by the worst of treatment; he submits to it, he forgets it; or, at least, remembers it only to attach himself the more. Instead of being exasperated, he willingly exposes himself to new trials of severity; he licks the hand that strikes him; he makes no other opposition than a mournful complaint, and at length disarms his master's rage by patience and submission.

More tractable than man, the dog not only imbibes instruction in a small space of time, but readily conforms himself to the various motions, to the manners, and to all the habits of the sportsman who commands him. Of what infinite importance is the dog, in the order of nature, supposing, for an instant, that he had never existed! Without him, how would man have been able to conquer, to subdue, and to reduce in slavery the savage animals of the forest? How could he, at this day, discover, chase, and destroy the wild creature of the field?

One of the first arts of man has been the education of the dog; and the consequence of this art has been the peaceable possession of the earth. Without the dog, man could not have pretended to such a conquest; because the greater part of animals have more agility, more swiftness, more strength, and even more courage than a human animal. Nature has better provided and better armed them than man: they have sense also, and the faculty of smelling in the most perfect degree.

After having thus stood forth as the advocate of the dog, and so warmly recommended him to the favour of his master, the affected friends of humanity may perhaps condemn me for recommending the modes of discipline which are hereafter described. Let it, however, be considered, that they are but means to prevent a greater evil: the natural faculties of the dog must be trained to their proper object and purpose; he is by nature wild and depredatory; he will sometimes return to his natural hankering; and we venture to pronounce, that any person would, at the sight of sheep worried in the fold, and of pigs and poultry in the farm-yard, follow the dictates of the old adage—

"Of two evils choose the least."

and, were he either in the situation of the owner of the dog, or the sufferer by his actions, he would equally countenance the severities alluded to, and acknowledge them to be salutary modes for the correction and prevention of such vicious habits.

With respect to the diseases of dogs, we lament that they have not been thought worthy of the attention of the College of Veterinarians. It is to be hoped and expected, that this respectable society will extend their plan, and invite communications on the nature and cure of the diseases to which this worthy and affectionate creature is peculiarly subject. As sportsmen, may we not be permitted to say, that the horse is not a more useful, nor a more noble animal, than the dog; and yet, when any thing ails him, a *rope* is too generally prescribed for him: and he is, to the last, *treated as a dog*.

But,

But to the point;—The sportsman, who is not very ambitious on the one hand, or blood-thirsty on the other, may possibly be content with a pointer, formed and educated under the rules we have presumed to lay down.—

Three species of dogs are capable of receiving the proper instructions, and of being *trained*—These are, the smooth pointer, the spaniel, and the rough pointer. The last is a dog with long curled hair, and seems to be a mixed breed of the water-dog and the spaniel. The smooth pointer is active, and lively enough in his range, but, in general, is proper only for an open country. Spaniels are generally allowed to be natives of Great Britain; but pointers are dogs of foreign extraction, and were unknown to our ancestors.

The greatest number of these dogs is afraid of water, brambles, and thickets; but the spaniel and the rough pointer are easily taught to take the water, even in the coldest weather; and to range the woods and rough places, as well as the plain. Greater dependence may therefore be had on these two last species of dogs, than on the smooth pointer.

Before you begin to break a dog, teach him to *fetch* and *carry*, at the age of five or six months. This may be done without going out of the house by means familiar to every one. With patience and gentle treatment, if the dog is of a good breed and disposition, he will acquire the habit very easily: but much gentle usage is necessary at this time: and, if the dog should be obstinate in learning his lessons, severity and correction should be carried only to a certain point. When you perceive him to be disheartened, let him rest, caress him, and return to the task at a future time.

But if this task cannot be accomplished by mild treatment, you must wait till the dog is of a proper age to be regularly trained; for then, in case of great obstinacy, he will be able to bear the strong collar, and the other modes of discipline hereafter mentioned.

Even while you are teaching the dog to *fetch* and *carry*, it will be proper to give him the first principles of obedience; which may be accomplished by walking with him a little distance from the house, and there learning him to come in, when he runs too far off; and to go behind, when he returns: using, in the first case, the words, *here, come in*; and in the latter, *back* or *behind*. It is very necessary that the dog should at this period, be tied up in a kennel or stable, where his straw should be frequently renewed; but, in these first essays, he should not be tied up too long, in consideration of his tender age, which seems to require some indulgence; he should, therefore, be let loose in the morning, and fastened up again in the evening. Dogs which are not early accustomed to be chained up, disturb you with their howling.

To make him the more obedient, it is of importance that the person who intends to train him should alone speak to, and command him; and that no other person should interfere with his education, or give him his food.

At the age of ten or twelve months, the dog should be taken into the field, for the purpose of regular training. At the first, let him do as he pleases, without requiring any thing of him; the first step being only to make him know his game. At this time, he will

will run after every thing he sees; crows, pigeons, thrushes, small birds, partridges, hares, &c. When this eagerness is in some degree abated, he will end by only pursuing the partridges and hares; to the former of which, his natural instinct will more particularly attach him; and being soon weary with following these in vain, he will be satisfied, after having flushed the birds, to follow them with his eyes.

His behaviour, however, is different with respect to hares; for seeing that they have only legs like himself, and do not quit the ground like partridges, he is convinced that there is more equality with himself, and will not relinquish the hope of overtaking them; for this reason he will continue the practice of running after hares, till corrected by education; and even then, it is extremely difficult to prevent the most crafty and best trained dog from pursuing hares.

(To be concluded in our next.)

An ancient Angling Anecdote.

PLUTARCH, speaking of angling, informs us that Mark Antony and Cleopatra, in the midst of their unparalleled splendour, passed many of their hours in that tranquil amusement. He also mentions a deception reciprocally played off by those two royal personages upon each other.——The whole business of angling may, indeed, be said to be deceptive, and therefore tricks in that art should be excused. But let me hasten to the tale:——

" Anthony," says Plutarch, " went out one day to angle with Cleopatra: and being so unfortunate as to catch nothing in the presence of his mistress, he was much dissatisfied, and gave secret orders to the fishermen to dive under water, and put fishes which had been fresh taken upon his hook. After he had drawn up two or three, Cleopatra perceived the trick: she pretended, however, to be surprised at his good-fortune and dexterity, and mentioned the circumstance to her friends; at the same time inviting them to come and see him angle. Accordingly a very large company went out in the fishing vessels; and, as soon as Anthony had let down his line, she commanded one of her servants to be beforehand with Anthony, and, diving into the water, to fix upon his hook a *salted-fish*, one of those which were brought from the Euxine Sea."—It does not appear how Anthony relished this imposition from his fair associate.

A rich Field Circle.

AS there are many of our sporting friends, whose rigid attendance upon business in town, may sometimes prompt them to a week's relaxation in the country: permit us to point out for their information, the richest field circle in the kingdom, (all within a distance of *twenty miles diameter)* where, by a central residence, nearly the whole may be enjoyed:

King's stag-hounds, Ascot-heath.

Lord Barrymore's harriers, Wargrave.

Mr. Palmer's harriers, Hurst.

Mr. St. John's hare and buck, Finchampstead.

N 2 Sir

Sir R. Cope's harriers, Bramshill.

Lord Stawell's fox, Holt, near Farnham.

Mr. Earle's harriers, Swallowfield.

Mr. Chute's fox, at the Vine.

Mr. Blagrave's harriers, Calcot.

Mr. Point's fox, Midgham.

Mr. Hartley's fox, Yattendon.

Lord Stawell's are now in the highest style of perfection.

Mr. Hartley's approach it rapidly, having killed five days in succession, and earthed on the sixth.

Mr. Chute's, though only their second season, improve much, and kill frequently.

A Hint to HUNTERS *and* ANGLERS *not to deal too much in the* Marvellous.

MR. Pye, his Majesty's poet-laureat, after lashing those who are so fond of exaggeration as to say that a hare sometimes produces six or seven young ones at a time, adds—" A certain baronet, long since dead, delighted in getting a set of huntsmen and fishermen together, than both of whom there are not greater liars under the canopy of heaven, purely for the satisfaction of out-lying them." Cynegetica; or, Essays on Sporting, 154.

Origin of a well known PROVERBIAL EXPRESSION, *illustrating the Subject of* ARCHERY.

THE old phrase, " It is good to have two strings to your bow," originated among bowmen, and from a very ancient custom. A passage in Ascham informs us, that it was practised in his day; and there is no reason to think it had not a much earlier existence.—" In warre," said he, " if a stringe breake, the man is lost, and is no man; for his weapon is gone; and, although he have two stringes put on at once, yet he shall have small leisure and lesse room to bend his bowe; therefore God send us good stringes both for warre and peace."

A law of Charlemagne, issued in the year 813, seems to express the same custom:—" Et ipse comes prævideat quomodo sint parati (milites)——aut arcum cum duabus cordis*."

I have an additional testimony, which appears to give weight to my conjecture on this head, and which shews that this custom prevailed in the beginning of the thirteenth century. I allude to a figure taken from a seal sent on a letter from Sir James Pringle to Mr. Warring of Leicester-house, who favoured me with a copy. The letter accompanying the impression, contained the following description: " I seal this letter with a ring—a very curious antique;—a present to me as President of the Council of the Royal Company of Archers, from Mr. Gray, our Secretary. Which ring was found about a month ago, near or upon the field of the famous battle of Bannockburn, several hundred years ago†."—This letter was dated, Edinburgh, Feb. 21, 1791.

The bow represented in the hands of the archer seems to have two strings attached to it; one of which only is drawn up

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* See Capit. Reg. France, a S. Baluzius, 509.

† This battle was fought in the reign of Edward II.

with

with the arrow, while the other remains unemployed; and it is presumed, this must have been the method of using the bows thus doubly strung.

A List of the GRAND MATCHES *of* CRICKET, *which have been played in the Year* 1792.

N. B. The List here given (being for a whole year) would have encroached too much on our limits, had we mentioned the minute particulars; we have therefore only given the result; but during every future cricketing season, we propose to give MONTHLY, an exact account of every Grand Match, with the names and exploits of the respective players.

1. A MATCH was played April 30, 1792. Seven gentlemen of Eaton, against seven gentlemen of Mary-le-bone Club, with four men to field on each side, in Lord's Cricket-ground, Mary-le-bone, for five hundred guineas.—Mary-le-bone won.

2. Monday, May 7, and the two following days, a match between nine gentlemen of the Mary-le-bone Club, with Beldham and T. Walker, against Middlesex, with S. Amhurst, Esq. at Lord's Ground—Mary-le-bone won.

3. Tuesday, May 15, and the two following days, a match between nine gentlemen of the Mary-le-bone Club, with Beldham and T. Walker, against the County of Middlesex, for five hundred guineas, at Lord's Ground.—Middlesex won.

4. On Monday, May 21, and the following day, a match between two select elevens of gentlemen and picked men, made between Lord Winchelsea and the Honourable E. Bligh, for one thousand guineas, at Lord's Ground.—Lord Winchelsea won.

5. On May 28, and the two following days, a grand match between the Prince of Wales's Brighton Club, and the County of Middlesex, for one thousand guineas, at Lord's Ground. This match was made by the Earl of Barrymore and Harvey Aston, Esq. —Brighton won.

6. On May 31, and the following day, a match between eleven gentlemen of the Mary-le-bone Club, against eleven of Berkshire, for five hundred guineas a side, at Lord's Ground.——Mary-le-bone won.

7. Wednesday, June 6, and the two following days, a grand match between six gentlemen of the Mary-le-bone Club, and five of the Hambledon Club, against eleven of all England, for one thousand guineas, in Lord's Ground.—Mary-le-bone won.

8. Monday, June 11, a grand single match, Lord Misselton and —— Brudenell, Esq. against Col. Churchill and —— Freemantle, Esq. for one hundred guineas, at Lord's Ground.—Lord Misselton and Mr. Brudenell won.

5. Thursday, June 29, and the two following days, a match between nine gentlemen of the County of Kent, with Harris and Beldham, against eleven of all England, for one thousand guineas, at Lord's Ground.——All England won.—This match was made by the Earl of Winchelsea and Lord Darnley.

10. July 2, and the two following days, a match between Lord Winchelsea and A. Smith, Esq. with four of Surrey, for Lord Winchelsea, and four of Hants, for A. Smith, Esq. for one thousand guineas, at Burleigh Park, Rutlandshire.—Mr. Smith won.

11. Tues-

11. Tuesday, July 5, and the following day, a grand match, between eleven gentlemen of the Mary-le-bone Club, and twenty-two of Nottingham, for one thousand guineas, in Burleigh-Park, Rutlandshire.——Mary - le - bone won.

12. Wednesday, July 6, and the two following days, a grand match between the Duke of Dorset and the gentlemen of Hants, with Ayleward and Ring, against all England, for one thousand guineas.—Hants won.

13. Wednesday, July 13, and the two following days, a grand match between Hants, with Ayleward and Ring, against eleven of all England, for one thousand guineas, on Windmill Downs, Hants. —All England won.

14. July 16, and the two following days, a grand match between eleven gentlemen of Hants and eleven of Surry, for one thousand guineas, on Windmill Downs, Hants.—Hants won.

15. Thursday, July 19, and the following day, a grand match between eleven gentlemen of the Prince of Wales's Brighton Club, and eleven of Hants, for five hundred guineas, on Windmill Downs. —Hants won.

16. Thursday, July 24, and three following days, a grand match between Lord Winchelsea and A. Smith, Esq. eleven of a side, for one thousand guineas, on Perram Downs, near Luggershall, Wilts.—Ld Winchelsea won.

17. August 2, and the two following days, a grand match between eleven gentlemen of the Mary-le-bone Club, and eleven of the county of Berks, at the Old Field, near Maidenhead.—Berkshire won.

18. Tuesday, Aug. 7, and the following day, a grand match between eleven gentlemen of the Brighton Club, and eleven of Hampshire, at Brighton.—Brighton won.

19. Wednesday, August 15, and the two following days, a match between Lord Darnley and Lord Winchelsea, with three gentlemen and seven picked men on each side, in Lord Darnley's Park, at Cobham, in Kent.—Lord Winchelsea won.

20. Monday, August 20, and the three following days, a grand match between nine gentlemen of the Mary-le-bone Club, with Collins and Purchase, and the Brighton Club, with Boxall, for one thousand guineas, at Brighton.—Brighton won.

21. Wednesday, August 23, and the two following days, a grand match between six gentlemen of Mary-le-bone, and five of Hants, against four out of Surry, one out of Kent, and six of the Brighton Club, for one thousand guineas, at Brighton.—H. Aston, Esq. won.

22. Wednesday, August 29, and the two following days, a grand match between nine gentlemen, with Ring and Beldham, and nine of Essex, with Fennex and Scott, for five hundred guineas, at Brighton.—Kent won.

23. Wednesday, September 5, and the following day, a grand match between the county of Middlesex, with T. Walker, and the Brighton Club, with Purchase, for five hundred guineas, in the Prince of Wales's ground, Brighton.—Brighton won.

24. Monday, September 17, and the two following days, a grand match between Kent, with two men given, and Hants, with two men given, for one thousand guineas, on Dartford Brimp.—Hants won the first innings.

25. Thursday, September 20, and the three following days, a grand

grand match between Middlesex with T. Walker, and Brighton with Purchase, at Lord's Ground, Mary-le-bone — Middlesex got eighty the first innings, and Brighton sixty-four. The match is postponed till next year.

26. Thursday, September 7, was finished a grand match between Kent and Essex, with two men given, for one thousand guineas, at Hornchurch, in Essex.—Kent won by one hundred and fifty-eight notches.

On the Laws *and* Orders *of* Cocking.

(Continued from page 36.)

SO fashionable is this diversion become, that within a few years past, its regulations have been formed into laws, and, as such, have received the sanction of the Cock-pit Royal, as well as the approbation of the best informed, and most skilful fighters in the kingdom.

Accordingly it has been agreed, that, on the weighing morning, the person whose chance it is to weigh last, is to set his cocks and number his pens, both mains and byes, and leave the key of the pens upon the weighing-table; or the other party, if he pleases, may put a lock on the door, before any cock is put into the scale: and, after the first pack of cocks are weighed, a person appointed by the party that weighed first, shall go into the other pens, to see that no other cocks are weighed, but what are so set and numbered, provided they are within the articles of weight specified by the match; but if not, they are to take the following cock, or cocks, till the whole number of main and bye cocks are weighed through.

This being done, you are to proceed to match them as speedily as possible, beginning at the least weight first, and so on, progressively; yet equal, or nearest weights are to be separated, provided that, by such a separation, a greater number of battles can be brought about; but not otherwise. All blanks, that is, choice of cocks, are to be filled upon the weighing day, and the battles divided, and struck off for each day's play, as agreed upon: the cocks weighing the least are to fight the first day, and so upwards.

At the time agreed on for fighting, the first cocks are to be brought into the pit by the feeders or their helpers: they are then to be examined, to see that they answer to the marks and colours specified in the match bill; afterwards they are to be given to the setter-to, who, after chopping them in hand, gives them to the gentlemen who are called masters of the match, and, for distinction sake, always set opposite to each other, and who turn them down upon the mat. The setters-to are not to touch the cock when they are upon the mat, unless they hang to it, or get close to the edge of the pit, till they leave off fighting, while a person can tell forty.

Such an interval occurring, the setters-to are to make their nearest way to the cocks; and, as soon as they have taken them up, carry them into the middle of the pit, and immediately put them upon their legs, back to back; and not touch them any more, till they have refused fighting, as long as the teller of the law can count ten gradually, unless they are on their backs, or hung in each other, or in the mat; they are then to set-to again, in the same

same manner as before, and continue it till one cock refuses fighting ten several times, one after another; when this happens, it is that cock's battle that fought within the law.

Though it sometimes falls out that both cocks refuse to fight while the law is telling; when this is the case, a fresh cock is to be hovelled and brought upon the mat, as soon as possible; the setters-to are likewise to toss-up which cock is to be set-to first; when that which is last must be taken up, but not carried off the pit. The hovelled cock is then to be set down to the other, five separate times, telling ten between each setting-to, and then the same to the other cock; but if both fight, or both refuse, it is a drawn battle. The reason of setting-to five times to each cock, is, that ten times setting-to, being the long law, so on their both refusing, the law is to be equally divided between them, as they are both entitled to it alike.

Another way of deciding a battle, is, if any person offers to lay ten pounds to a crown; that is, if he is thought capable of paying it, he loses: or if he stakes his money upon the mat, and no person takes it up till the law-tellers tell forty, and cries out, three separate times, "Will any one take it?" if no one answers him, it is the cock's battle, and the odds are laid on. But the setters-to are not to touch the cocks while the forty is telling, unless either of them are hung in the mat, or on his back, or both hung together. If a cock should die before the long law is told out, though he fought in the law, and the other did not, he loses the battle; and there cannot be a better rule for a cock's winning his battle, than his killing his adversary within the time allowed him by the laws. There are often disputes with the setters-to, as well as with the spectators, especially in setting-to in the long law, as both cocks often refuse fighting until four or five, or more or less times are told; then they begin telling from that cock's fighting, and counting but once refused; but they should continue their number on, until one cock has refused ten times; for, when the law is begun to be told, it is for both cocks; but if one cock fights within the long law, and the other not, it is a battle to the cock that fought, counting from the first setting-to.

All disputes about bets, or the battle being won or lost, ought to be decided by the spectators; for if the bets are not paid, nor the battles settled according to judgment then given, it will be a good evidence in law, if an action is brought for the recovery of such bets. The crowning and mantling of a cock, or fighting at the setter-to's hand before he is put to the other cock, or breaking from his antagonist, is not fair, nor allowed to be a fight.

The Form *of the* Articles *for a* Cock-match:

As made use of at the Cock-pit Royal, Westminster.

ARTICLES of agreement made the - - - - - - day of - - - - - One thousand seven hundred and - - - - - - between -

First, the said parties have agreed, that each of them shall produce, shew, and weigh at the - on the - - - - day of - - - - - - be-

beginning at the hour of - - - in the morning - - - cocks, none to be less than three pounds six ounces, nor more than four pounds eight ounces, and as many of each party's cocks that come within one ounce of each other, shall fight for - - - - - - a battle; that is, - - - - - - each cock; in as equal divisions as the battles can be divided into six pits, or days' play at the cock-pit before mentioned: and the party's cocks that win the greatest number of battles, matched out of the number before specified, shall be entitled to the sum of - - - - - odd battle money, and the sum to be staked into the hands of Mr. - - - - before any cocks are pitted, by both parties. And we further agree to produce, shew, and weigh, on the said weighing days - - - - cocks for bye battles, subject to the same weight as the cocks that fight in the main, and these to be added to the number of main cocks unmatched, and as many of them as come within one ounce of each other, shall fight for - - - - - - a battle; the number of cocks so matched, to be equally divided, as will permit of, and added to each day's play with the main cocks, and it is also agreed; that the balance of the battle money shall be paid at the end of each day's play. It is also further agreed for the cocks to fight in silver spurs, and with fair hackles, and to be subject to all the usual rules of cock fighting, as practised at the Cock-pit Royal, Westminster; and the profits arising from the spectators to be equally divided between both parties, after all charges are paid that usually happen on those occasions. Witness our hands the - - - - - - day of - - - - 17

Witness - - - - - - - -

Of Choosing Fighting Cocks.

IN the choice of a fighting cock, four things are chiefly to be considered, viz. shape, colour, courage, and a sharp heel.

1. With respect to the shape, you must not choose one that is either too large, or too small: for the first is wieldy, and not active; and the other is weak and tedious in his fighting: and both are very difficult to be matched. The middle sized cock is therefore more proper for your purpose, as being strong, nimble, and easily matched; his head ought to be small, with a quick, large eye, and a strong beak, which (as Mr. Markham observes) should be crooked, and big at the setting on; in colour, suitable to the plume of his feathers, whether black, yellow, or reddish, &c. The beam of his leg should be very strong, and according to his plume, blue, grey, or yellow; his spurs rough, long, and sharp, a little bending, and pointing inward.

2. The colour of a game cock ought to be grey, yellow, or red, with a black breast; not but there are many other piles, or birds of different colours, very excellent, and may be discovered by practice and observation; but the three former, by experience, are ever found to be the best. The pied pile may pass indifferently; but the white and dun are rarely known to be good for any thing. If your cock's neck is invested with a scarlet complexion, it is a sign that he is strong, lusty, and courageous; but, on the contary,

if pale and wan, it denotes him to be faint and defective in his state of health.

3. You may judge of his courage by his proud, upright standing and stately tread in walking; and if he crows frequently in his pen it is a demonstration of his spi t.

4. His narrow heel, or sharpness of heel, is known only by observation in fighting; and that is when, upon every rising, he so hits, that he draws blood from his adversary, gilding his spurs continually, and at every blow threatening him with immediate death. Here it may be necessary to observe, that it is the opinion of the most skilful cock-masters, that a sharp-heeled cock, though he may be somewhat false, is better than a true cock with a dull heel; the reason is, that the one fights long, and seldom wounds; while the other carries a heel so fatal, that every moment produces an expectation of the end of the battle; and though he be not so hardy as to endure the utmost hewing, it frequently happens that there is little occasion for it, he being a quick dispatcher of his business. Should your cock prove to be both hardy and narrow-heeled, he is the best bird that can be chosen.

1. To prepare a cock for fighting, take a pair of fine shears, and cut his mane close off to his neck, from his head to the setting on of the shoulders.

2. Clip off all the feathers, from the tail, close to the rump; the redder it appears, the better is the cock in condition.

3. Spread his wings by the length of the first rising feather, and clip the rest slopewise, with sharp points, that in rising he may therewith endanger an eye of his adversary.

4. Scrape his spurs smooth, and sharpen them with a penknife.

5. And, lastly, observe that there are no feathers on the crown of his head, for the opponent to take hold of; then moisten his head all over with your spittle, and turn him into the pit to try his fortune.

Particulars of a Sailing Match *between the* Prince Cutter *and the* Clarence Schooner.

SATURDAY morning, the 20th of October, a sailing match took place at Plymouth, between the Prince Cutter and the Clarence Schooner. The vessels started about eleven o'clock P. M. from the buoy on the east end of St. Nicholas's Island (the place appointed by the parties concerned), to sail thence round the cutter Spill Buoy, with the wind at S. W. blowing extremely hard, accompanied with a very heavy sea.

At the first starting, the Prince overhauled the Clarence amazingly, owing to the Clarence having a reef of the fore and main sails: but as soon as the reefs were let out, to the very great astonishment of a number of spectators, who were assembled on the occasion, she very shortly got the weather-gage of the Prince; and, by good management in manœuvring, the Clarence beat the Prince by a considerable distance.

The Prince is an excellent fine cutter, copper-bottomed, and sails remarkably well.—The Clarence Schooner is of a new construction, and sails so well, that it is supposed she is, of her burthen, one of the fastest sailing vessels ever built.

THE

FEAST OF WIT;

OR,

SPORTSMAN'S HALL.

A YOUNG gentleman honoured the Publisher of this Miscellany with a visit, and earnestly recommended an alteration in the title; *Sporting*, he admitted, was not without its charms, but he had thought of a more emphatic, as well as a more extatic word. After this prefatory remark, he very obligingly insisted that "*The* TRANSPORTING MAGAZINE" would be a title infinitely more alluring, and create a more extensive sale. But our Publisher, *who* (as O'Keefe says) "*knows a thing or two*," thought proper to differ in opinion from his counsellor, and calmly replied, "A publisher, like a trading justice, gets nothing by *transporting* his customers: Besides, added he, "if our pamphlet should, at any time, happen to be dull, our readers will naturally return from *transportation*, and then what will be the consequence?"

Nathaniel Monks, the famous cock-fighter, being on a Sunday at Dean Church, near Bolton, Lancashire, and falling asleep in the middle of the sermon, the beadle tapped him on the shoulder, when Monks, then in a dream, rose up, and exclaimed,

"*Black Cock for ever,*" which so disconcerted the clergyman, and excited the laughter of the congregation, that it was some time before the former could proceed in his discourse, or the latter become silent to hear him.

After a well known gamester had won a considerable sum from one of the Rutland family, whose name is *Manners,* he was met by an acquaintance, who congratulating him upon his good fortune, asked him if he meant to set up his carriage? to this the other answered in the affirmative; but added, he was at a loss for a motto.—"A motto!" exclaimed the former, "take this:—*Manners make the man.*"

A young lady reprimanded her shoemaker for not following her directions respecting a pair of shoes which she had ordered; and, among other charges, insisted that they were not *fellows.* Honest Crispin acquiesced in the propriety of this remark, and that he purposely made them so in order to oblige her, well knowing the purity and chastity of her disposition, and that she was not fond of *fellows.*

A gentleman who possessed a much larger quantity of nose than nature usually bestows upon an individual, contrived to make it more enormous by his invincible attachment to the bottle, which also beset it with emeralds and rubies. To add to his misfortunes, this honest toper's face was somewhat disfigured by not having a regular pair of eyes; one being black, and the other of a reddish hue. A person happening once to observe that his eyes were not *fellows,* congratulated him on that circumstance. The rosey-gilded old tippler demanded the reason; "Because," replied the jocular genius, "if your eyes had been *matches,* your nose would certainly have set them in a flame, and a dreadful conflagration might have been apprehended."

A culprit who was on the point of suffering an ignominious death for his depredations on mankind, unwillingly permitted Jack Ketch to put the halter about his neck; but being equipped with it, he thus remonstrated with the minister of justice;—"I wish, Mr. John (touching the cord), you could find a more eligible situation for me, for really I do not like *this line of life.*"

A person speaking very respectfully of a blind gentleman, said, among other things, that he was a *good-looking man.* An Hibernian in company, struck with the apparent blunder, exclaimed, "By the holy Shannon, if I had said as much, I should have been accused of making a bull.—How can any one be a *good looking* man when he is so stark blind that he cannot *look* at all."

A few evenings ago, a gentleman in company was called upon for a toast. Pleased at the opportunity of declaring his principles, he immediately bawled out —"Gentlemen, I'll give you Liberty!" A person who sat near him, and had always a greater relish for pleasure than for *pain,* said (addressing himself to the proprietor of the toast), "I did not know that our friend was a gaol-keeper, nor that we were prisoners, till he had so kindly offered to give us *liberty!*

SPORTING INTELLIGENCE.

Coursing on MR. TOPHAM'S *and* MR. CROFT'S *Grounds.*

THE Malton Meeting took place on Monday the fifth instant, at Wharram and Duggleby. The coursing began on Tuesday for the first day, and a great number of matches were run.—About sixteen hares were coursed, and twenty hares left sitting.

Mr. Dixon was the chief winner of the matches. The sweepstakes of thirteen dogs was won by the Hon. Mr. Monson.

On the trial of that day, the Wold dogs beat the blood of the Norfolks, as some of the best bred of the late Lord Oxford were completely worsted; and one of them, after a course of two miles, gave up running, and laid down.

About one hundred and fifty horsemen were on the ground.

The Hon. Mr. Willoughby's fox-hounds hunted the Castle Howard Woods on Wednesday, and, as usual, killed. The field was a large one.

DUBLIN, *Nov.* 7.—The Right Honourable Mr. Conolly makes a present of a gold cup, value two hundred guineas, to be run for at the next spring meeting at the Curragh. The terms of the cup are: that it shall always be liable to challenge, on the deposit of fifty guineas, as a private bet, by the owner of any horse that may be entered upon the same race.

Colonel Lenox proposes to establish a prize of one hundred guineas annually, for superiority in hurling, on the Fifteen Acres, in the Phœnix Park. The sum to be raised by subscription. The contending parties are to consist of at least twenty-four on each side, to be entitled to the prize, if successful.

The amiable Countess of Kingsborough, last week, ordered two hundred cloaks to be distributed among the indigent females in the neighbourhood of Mitchelstown, to shelter them from the inclemency of the winter season.

An extraordinary Fact.—A hound bitch, belonging to the Kivington hunt, near Bolton, on Thursday the 8th instant, during the chase, pupped four whelps, which she carefully covered in a rush aisle, and immediately afterwards joined the pack. Shortly afterwards she pupped another, which she carried in her mouth during the remainder of a hard chase of many miles, to the great astonishment of a number of spectators; after which she returned to the place where she had dropped the four.

The Duke of Northumberland has given five hundred pounds towards the building of the new Veterinary College, planned at Camden Town.

PERTH, *Nov.* 12.—Mr. Baird's mare, Magdalena, won the Thursday's race, against Mr. Hamilton's Caledonian, after two tolerable heats. Yesterday she gained the first heat against the Marquis of Huntley's Pratt, by a neck, but the second by a length or two.

There was no fox-hunting on Thursday. Friday was a bad day, and there was no sport. Yesterday one fox was killed, after a chase of upwards of three hours.

There have been balls every night, which have given universal satisfaction.

Break-

Breakfasts, dinners, and suppers have been as faithfully attended here as in any other place on such occasions. The stewards acquitted themselves much to the satisfaction of the company; and the entertainments furnished by Mrs. Marshall and Mr. Campbell, procured them the thanks of all present.

ACCIDENTAL CHACE.—A few days ago, as Richardson, gamekeeper to the Earl of Egremont, was leading two greyhounds, coupled together, near Uldale, a hare ran across the road; the dogs instantly broke from their conductor, and gave chace, fastened as they were to each other. The pursuit began at Uldale Browtap, and afforded a very entertaining sight to several spectators; the frequent windings of the hare embarrassing the dogs greatly, particularly in changing their direction. At one time, Mrs. Puss was very near giving them the slip; but she was baffled in an attempt to escape through a gate; and, by the sudden turning of her pursuers, after a run of about four miles, she fell a sacrifice at Pikeless-gate, being actually killed by the coupled greyhounds, whose eagerness for the chase could not be restrained by any efforts of the game-keeper.

Nov. 13.——Mr. Coke's fox-hounds are returned from Castle Hedingham to Holkham, where they remain the present month; after which they remove to Epping. This celebrated pack has had but one *blank* day during the season, and killed the last thirteen brace of foxes they found.

Mr. Canning's hounds take possession of the Witham kennel, in Essex, to-morrow, for the first time. They are to hunt the central parts of the country between those possessed by Sir William Rowley to the east, and Mr. Coke on the west. His Grace of Grafton's dwarf pack still continue their celebrity for the best *hunting* hounds in the kingdom.

The Prince of Anhault-Dessau is one of the greatest sportsmen of the present day; his time and fortune being both devoted to the sports of the field. He has at present six hundred wild boar-hounds, each of which is nearly as large as an ass, with four hundred stag-hounds, and three hundred hunting horses.

There are three princes of the same house, whose sovereignties are contiguous, and who are nearly as great hunters as the Prince of Dessau, and whose establishments are also very considerable.

A race for twenty guineas was run on the Ilford-road, on Wednesday, the 14th, by a little blind mare, the property of a gentleman in the vicinity of Red Lion-square, and a famous brown horse in high condition. The owner of the latter being well versed in the art of riding, and well known on the selvage of the turf, conceiving his own abilities in the jockey line (as the vulgar phrase it) not to be done, rode his high-mettled racer "his *own* self." The wonderful exertions he exhibited on the occasion were highly astonishing.—At the five mile stone from Whitechapel, he led the mare half a mile; but conceive (if possible) his surprise, when, at the eight-mile stone, the blind mare was within a hundred yards of him, and passing him on the next half-mile, bid

bid him good by, and arrived at the ten mile stone in thirty-three minutes.—Thus terminated a race which would not have taken place but for the repeated declarations of the master, that this high bred horse carried him from Newmarket, Epsom, Egham, &c. to London, in so short a time, as would astonish the reader.—The wonders having been so frequently repeated, urged the first mentioned gentleman to match his blind mare, whose only work is that of running in a hackney coach.

A SINGULAR RACE.—Nov. 15. About seven o'clock yesterday morning, two waiters belonging to the Cannon Coffee-house, ran a race round St. James's Park, quite naked, for a wager of *one guinea*. The loser was beat by a yard and a half only; and the winner came to the place where they started, in the course of five minutes and a half. The race was strongly contested, and afforded much amusement to a great number of spectators: among whom were many of the delicate nymphs of the Horse-Guards.

DUBLIN, Nov. 15.—The Queen packet, Captain Miller, arrived here from Parkgate, on Tuesday, with a number of passengers.—Lord Jocelyn landed, from on board the above vessel, an excellent pack of fox-hounds, the breed of Yorkshire. They are of the true sort, something larger than the general breed in this country, and remarkable for beauty, blood, and bone.

Throughout every part of England, the *breed of partridges* has, this season, been remarkably scarce. *Pheasants* have not been great in quantity; but *hares* have been plentiful. In the north of England, *woodcocks* have been sufficiently numerous, and numbers have been already killed. *Snipes* have been in great abundance; in some places twenty brace have been killed in a morning.

There is a bird called the *solitary snipe*, from being always found alone, and which is nearly as large as a woodcock, that has been plentiful this season. The flavour of it is as near that of the woodcock as possible.

The Duke of Bedford has lately sold his famous grey horse Diomed, to Mr. Smith, for 600 guineas; he means to convey him to Russia, where he is to oppose some capital horses, carried over last year, by Mr. Hughes, to Count Orloff, which have hitherto beat every thing before them in that country. It is supposed, by the time he arrives at Petersburgh, he will have cost Mr. Smith 1200 guineas.

The Duke of Richmond's hunt has been adjourned some time to Mr. Barwell's, at Stanstead, where the hounds (which are in great repute) have had excellent diversion, and the field has been always numerously attended. Mr. Barwell's known hospitality, and the amiable manners of his fair spouse, would not fail of making the time particularly pleasant.—The fair huntress loses no part of her feminine softness in the drawing-room, by her exercise in the field.

To those gentlemen who yet continue the sport of hawking, may it not be practicable to fly at bustards in Norfolk—that bird so difficult for any other species of sporting to reach; or has this ever been tried?

Within

Within these few days, a bustard was killed at Rudstone, on the Wolds, by a game-keeper belonging to Sir Griffith Boynton. The width of the wings was seven feet over.

Ringing—not the hackneyed changes on a reform, meant for nothing but a venal cant to take in the people—but genuine, independent bell-ringing, at Ashton-under-Line, in Cheshire. The late ringing there is certified by thirty-four amateurs and professors, to have been the best performance of the kind; and equally arduous, amusing, and useful, with other mechanism of *extempore* speeches, from written notes, hats, &c. &c.

The late Baron Hacke, the huntsman to the Prince Palatine, having been mentioned in the public papers, we are desired, by the friend of a very respectable tradesman, Mr. Hack, the pork-butcher, to say that his family are not all a-kin to the huntsman above, not to any other menial servant, in or out of livery, at home, or in any other court.

We read, with pleasure, Mr. Taplin's intention of appropriating the first Monday and Tuesday in every month, to the service of the public, in his advice and assistance upon the defects and diseases of horses. This is a circumstance from which our sporting friends, and the public, are likely to receive advantage.

*** We are happy to have received the favours of a gentleman so well known for his equestrian publications: but we are concerned that they arrived too late for insertion in the present number: we, however, announce their appearance in our next; and hope to be honoured occasionally with cases and remarks of so much consequence to the sporting world.

Hull, Nov. 20.——Mr. Willoughby's fox-hounds on Wednesday last, had one of the longest and severest runs ever known, in England. They unkennelled a fox at Skuseley-wood, which was killed seven miles beyond Black-Hamilton, on the Moors, after a run of four hours and ten minutes, with only one short check. The ground they went is calculated at least fifty miles, over a very deep and strong country. The only persons in at the death, were the two whippers-in, Lord Carlisle's stud-groom, and a gentleman of the name of Leatham.

The exact account of this extraordinary run, is as follows: found at fourteen minutes past ten o'clock, on Skuseley-moor; run some rings there, then to Swarthdale-springs, to Hovingham South-woods, then to Haryholm and Wiggenthorpe, and run some rings there; then to Duncomb-park, and on to the Moors for eight miles, near Hamilton, and to Scawton, then to Old Byland, and near Hornby, where the hounds ran out of scent into view, which lasted about four miles.

Killed handsomely at fifteen minutes past two o'clock, after a chase of fifty-one miles, and four hours and one minute hard running; thirty couple of hounds went into the field; nineteen were in at the death.

Swaffham Coursing Society.—The annual silver cup given by this society, was won by Mr. Woodley's greyhound, beating two others.

A let-

A letter from Carlisle, of the 17th instant, says, "We have had a week of fine weather for the Cumberland hunt, which finished yesterday. The sports of the field were excellent; his Grace the Duke of Norfolk honoured the meeting with his presence; the ordinaries were well attended, and the assemblies were even superior to any thing of the kind that has been seen here for several years.

ANECDOTE.

"Throwing of stones, or being basketted," for a Levant, are terms which we have no occasion to explain to a sportsman; but to others it may be necessary to say, that the latter consists of a person being put into a large basket, and drawn up to the roof of the Cock-pit *for foul play.* A person well known to the sporting world, being once in this predicament, notwithstanding he had no money in his pocket, and could not expect his bets to be taken, had the *furor* of betting so strong upon him, that in spite of his situation in the basket, as the odds varied, he could not help vociferating, "I'll lay three to two—two to one—five to two—three to one—four to one—five to one—a guinea to a shilling——the long odds, ten pounds to a crown," to the no small diversion of the auditors and spectators, who, at length, commiserating his case, and attributing his imprudence to an insurmountable passion for play, shortened his punishment, and when a gentleman present gave him a small sum he took the long odds all the way through, went off with a hundred guineas in his pocket, and from this source only became a very distinguished character upon the turf.

*** *Dramatic exhibitions deserve an exalted rank as sports or pastimes, and are consequently fully entitled to the attention of the Editors of the* SPORTING MAGAZINE; *determined not to neglect what might be thought a very essential part of their duty, they therefore propose to give an account of all new Theatrical Performances; and first, of*

THE PIRATES,

A NEW OPERA,

Performed November 21st, 1792.

DRAMATIS PERSONÆ.

Don Altador	Mr. Kelly.
Don Gasparo	Mr. Suett.
Don Guillermo	Mr. Sedgwick.
Blazio	Mr. Bannister, jun.
Genariello	Mr. Dignum.
Sotillo,	Mr. Wewitzer.
Capt. of the Guard	Mr. Cook.
Cosmino	Mr. Phillimore.
Capt. of the Ship	Mr. Benson.
Donna Aurora	Mrs. Crouch.
Fidelia	Mrs. Bland.
Fabulina	Signora Storace.
Marietta	Miss De Camp.

The fable of this Opera is as follows:

Donna Aurora has been brought from Spain to Naples by her guardian, Gasparo, who intends marrying her to his nephew Guillermo, the commander of a piratical ship belonging to him. Her lover Altador arrives at Naples, and, disguised as Gasparo, attempts to gain an interview with her in the garden. The guardian returning home unexpectedly, is addressed by Aurora, who mistakes him at first for her lover, whom she attended with anxiety. At the instant Altador's voice is heard on the outside of the gar-

den. Gaspara contrives a scene of courtship between Guillermo and Aurora, whom he threatens to poignard, unless she answers as he dictates. Altador overhearing this, supposes Aurora to be faithless.

Fabulina, however, explains every thing to him, and appoints a time for him to elope with his mistress. Sotillo, who is set to guard the only door through which Aurora could escape, falls asleep;—his blunderbuss is taken from him, and the lovers are just on the wing, when Gasparo and Guillermo arrive to spoil the scheme. Their vengeance on Altador is prevented by the interference of the City Guard.

In the second act, Blazio, Altador's servant, endeavours to assist his master's schemes, by getting admittance to Gasparo's house, and conveying a letter from Aurora. He is, however, discovered by Gasparo, and, in a fright, gives up her letter to the old man. Gasparo also finding that Altador is apprised of his piracies, resolves to have him seized, and conveyed on board a ship.—To effect this, he contrives that Aurora shall go to the fair, whence Altador follows her to the sea coast. Here some sailors are stationed, who force Altador and Blazio on board, in the midst of a storm, which concludes the act.

The third act opens with the view of Genariello's vineyard, near Naples. In this scene, Marietta acquaints Fidelia, that Aurora is confined at Gasparo's castle, near Pensilypo; and Fidelia, with Fabulina, form a scheme for her release. In the mean time, the ship in which Altador is carried off, is attacked, and driven on shore, by a Neapolitan frigate. The crews land, and fight; and Altador obtains his liberty. The Captain of the frigate offers Altador his assistance to recover Aurora; and for that purpose waits near Gasparo's castle, with some of his crew, while Altador, Fabulina, and Fidelia, get into the castle disguised as Savoyards, with a magic lantern. They are discovered.

Altador is disarmed, and prevented from firing the pistol, which was to be the signal for the approach of the Captain. Fabulina, however, snatches a pistol from one of the sailors, and gives the signal, which is answered by Altador's friends on the outside of the walls. They force the castle, take the pirates prisoners, and release the lovers.

Such is the fable. It is the most splendid and active of brilliant things which COBB and STORACE, uniting spectacle with music, have successively produced. The dialogue is not very engaging, or the characters forcible, but the action is often interesting, and always rapid. The music has many skilful and valuable harmonies; if, now and then, some part of a melody reminds us of one that has been heard before, the remembrance, perhaps, rather helps than diminishes the effect of the improvement.

All the manager's part of this part of the spectacle is most liberally performed. The dresses, new, exactly characteristic, and rich; the scenery also new, expensive and grand. The audience saw and heard the whole with as frequent and perfect approbation as we ever remember given to a play. It seems to have begun a run of forty nights.

N. B. The *favourite airs* in this Opera will be found among our *Poetry*.

POETRY.

POETRY.

THE HIGH COURT OF DIANA.

THE BOWMEN OF KENT.

WRITTEN AND COMPOSED BY MR. DIBDIN.

'TWAS one day at a fête giv'n at Jove's Sans Souci,
The gods drinking nectar, the goddesses tea;
While many a whim did their pleasures beguile,
They at last talk'd of Britain, their favourite isle;
Of its loyalty, whence all its blessings increase,
Of its glory in war, of its splendour in peace:
Cry'd Jove, we'll revive our accomplishment more,
Thro' which Britain's sons gather'd laurels of yore.
When fame led her archers wherever they went,
Proudly perch'd on the plume of the Bowmen of Kent.

Come, name your endowments, cry'd Mars, for my meed
I courage would give, if of courage they'd need!
And I, cry'd out Vulcan, will gladly bestow,
Of well-temper'd steel, an old tough English bow;
The bold archers all offer'd some gift to adorn;
Cynthia gave, as her meed, a superb bugle horn;
Mercury skill and address, Momus mirth, Bacchus wine;
The care of their dress, cry'd gay Iris, be mine.
Thus no trophy that fancy or taste could invent,
Was neglected to grace the bold Bowmen of Kent.

Cry'd

Cry'd Venus, her words sweetly kissing the air,
Gift you your bold bowmen, whilst I gift the fair:
And first, of my cestus each fair shall be queen,
Who sports a gay sash of toxopholite green;
Next my son, from his quiver, an arrow shall draw,
Such as wounded my heart when Adonis I saw;
His bow shall he lend, and a lesson impart,
Expertly to shoot at their target, the heart:
Thus the trophy of love that by Venus was sent,
Shall reward the brave faith of the Bowmen of Kent.

Thus bestow'd each celestial some tribute of worth,
And Mercury descended triumphant on earth;
New Henrys and Edwards that swarm'd on the plain,
New Cressys and Agincourts conquer'd again;
And many a fair, darting love from her eyes,
As captains of numbers, soon bore off the prize.
Favour'd thus by the gods, by your king, by the fair,
May ye Britons have peace—yet should trumpets speak war,
Of a nation united, beware—the bow's bent,
Then make from the shaft of the Bowmen of Kent.

FAVOURITE SONGS
IN THE OPERA OF
THE PIRATES.

AIR—BLAZIO.

OH! the pretty creature!
When next I chance to meet her,
No more for an ass
Shall Blazio pass,
But gallantly will I treat her—
Oh! the pretty, pretty creature.

But then her wicked charming eyes,
Where'er they roll, flash such surprise,
I like an awkward silly clown,
When she looks up, must needs look down—
Oh! the pretty, pretty creature, &c.

I'll boldly dare her fearful charms,
March up and clasp her in my arms;
Despair gives courage oft to men,
And should she smile—why then—why then—
Oh! the pretty, pretty creature, &c.

AIR—AURORA.

Love, like the opening flower,
That courts the morning dew,
Gave promise every hour,
To bring new charms to view.

But see the fatal storm
Of tyrant power arise!
Blighted its beauteous form,
The hapless flowret dies.

AIR—GUILLERMO.

There the moon-silver'd waters roam,
And wanton o'er th' unsteady sand,
Spangling with their starry foam
The tow'ring clifts that guard the land.

There the screaming sea-bird flits,
Dips in the wave his dusky form;
Or on the rocking turrets sits,
Th' exulting dæmon of the storm.

There, as village legends tell,
Many a shipwreck'd seaman's ghost,
Listens to the distant knell,
When midnight glooms the fatal coast.

AIR—ALTADOR.

Scarcely had the blushing morning,
Woo'd the waves with tender light,
When the bright'ning plain adorning,
A distant vessel rose in sight.

Aloft, the crowding sailors viewing
Her misty sails with straining eye,
In fancy now the foe subduing,
A prize! a prize! exulting cry.

The boatswain's whistle, loud and shrill,
Shames the tardy sleeping wind;
In vain our chase-gun fires—for still
She crowds her sails—we're left behind.

At length the breeze affords assistance;
Right-a-fore the wind's our course;
We clear our decks—she threats resistance,
And proudly boasts superior force.

Amid her thunder boldly steering,
Our batter'd ship almost a wreck;
With steady courage persevering,
They board, they storm, her gory deck.
Her

Her wounded captain—life disdaining,
Yet mourning o'er his gallant crew;
Casts a last look on those remaining;
Then strikes to save the valiant few.

CHARMS OF THE GUN.

AWAY to the heath where the bilberry grows,
Where the hedges are covered with haws and with sloes,
Ere the dormouse begins her half-year of repose.
We sportsmen repair,
Inhale the fresh air,
With the gun's pleasant toil,
Cure the phthsic and bile,
And regarnish the cheeks with the tints of the rose.

At eve, when the sun all be-crimsons the west,
While the partridge is calling her brown brood to nest,
We share our plain fare, and go lightsome to rest.
While your ruby town sots,
Over bowls, pipes, and pots,
As the watchmen go one,
Let their tongues idly run,
Of high state affairs, while their own are oppress'd.

The moment the cherry-lip'd handmaid of day,
Peeps in at our windows, we're up and away,
With our pointers, to shew where the still coveys lay.
You boast your town sights,
Your play-house delights,
Compar'd with our sport,
They're not worthy report,
If our dogs are well trained, and alert to obey.

A greater delight we have still left behind,
A bliss which the churl is not likely to find,
A bliss that results from a liberal mind:
'Tis this, when we've done,
Of the spoils of the gun,
We chearfully send,
To oblige a town friend:
What pastime can furnish a conduct more kind.

From the sportsman's pursuits, let the niggard go learn,
His cold flinty bosom with friendship to burn,
And his meanness consign to oblivion's urn,
So at morn on the glade,
Or at eve on the shade,
Shall his breast feel the glow
Only friendship can know,
She whose greatest delight is to do a good turn.

A favourite AIR, *sung by* Mr. QUICK, *in* HERTFORD-BRIDGE.

GIRLS shy appear,
When men first leer,
And steal aside,
As if to *hide!*—
But, daring grown,
As things get known,
They giggle, simper,
Niggle, and whimper,
And try to lure wherever they go,
The 'squire, the jockey, the rake, the beau.
The young, and the old ones,
The timid, and bold ones;
Yes, with the grave parson,
They carry the farce on,
And all are snar'd in a row.

Of balls the pride,
Thus Miss I've ey'd
The minuet pace,
With blushing face;
But, ere the night
Had taken flight,
I've seen her ramping,
Tearing—tramping
Along the room in a country dance:
Now figuring in with bold advance;
Here *setting* and leering,
There crossing and steering;
And when that's completed,
Before she'll be seated,
A mad Scotch reel she must prance.

SOLITUDE.

O THOU who fill'st my vase with wine!
While life yet rolls its youthful tide,
O! be some happy moments mine,
And Sober SOLITUDE my guide.

With her I'll stray the live-long day,
Her lessons shall my joys increase,
And as we trace the woodland way,
We'll rest us at the cot of PEACE.

PEACE

PEACE, as she feeds her fleecy care,
On meadows gay with sweets besprent,
Shall call on MIRTH to meet us there,
And bring with smiles, the nymph CONTENT.

Near some mean'dring, limpid rill,
Sweet piping on his oaten reed,
We soon shall find the swain GOOD-WILL,
Whose bounty cheers the breast of NEED.

Beneath the Druid's spreading tree,
Where bees at noon for honey meet,
We'll often sit from sun-shine free,
And the dark ugly fiend DECEIT.

And, should we choose the wind-thyme down,
Where HEALTH and PLEASURE oft repair,
We need not fear the tyrant's frown,
He's lock'd at home with sad DESPAIR.

But, should we tread where sorrows lay,
'Twere folly to be over nice:
We will not heed the rugged way,
More rugged are the paths of VICE.

Thus, SOLITUDE, with thee I'd tread,
And oft at morn the huntsman join;
And when my days of life were fled,
Receive my lot, and ne'er repine.

A PARODY

ON THE

Celebrated Soliloquy in HAMLET.

BY A BOXER.

TO box, or not to box, that is the question,
Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to suffer
The stings and goadings of a well-tweak'd nose,
Or to take heart with Humphries or Mendoza,
And by opposing end them. To strip, to bear
No more; and by this movement then to say we end,
The heart-ache, and a thousand natural jeers
The coward's heir to. 'Tis a consummation
Devoutly to be wish'd. To strip, to square,
To fight——perchance be beat! Aye, there's the rub,
For in that daring step, what blows may come,
When we have shuffled off our coats and shirts
Must give us pause; there's the respect
That makes this diffidence of so long life.
For who would bear the taunts and sneers o' th' mob;
The pangs of cold neglect, and fame's delay,
The porter's wrongs—the coal-heaver's contumely,
Th' insolence of pugilists, and the spurns
That patient merit of the hero takes,
When he himself might his quietus make
With a well-put blow. Who would insults bear,
And fret and fume beneath a doubtful state,
But that a dread of something on the stage.
The undetermin'd trial, from whose bourn
EARL* ne'er return'd, puzzles the will,
And make us rather bear those ills we have,
Than fly to others that we know not of.
Thus fear of drubbing makes us cowards all,
And thus the wish of native resolution,
And skill'd manœuvres of each well-grac'd ring,
With this regard, their profits turn away.
And lose the fame of boxing.

THE DISCOVERY.

AN EPIGRAM.

ONCE Celia cry'd, while hardly fetching breath,
What ails me now, why sure I'm struck with death!
But as 'twas known she'd not been long a wife,
Is soon appear'd that she was struck with *life*.

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* Killed in a pitch'd battle at Brighton.